FBIS DAILY REPORT

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MOROCCAN FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES FOR BAGHDAD SUMMIT

LD301352Y Rabat MAP in English 1200 GMT 30 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Baghdad, Oct 30, (MAP)--Moroccan Foreign Minister M'hamed Boucetta arrived here Sunday night for the council of ministers that precedes the Arab summit.

Foreign Minister Boucetta told newsmen on arrival that King Hassan II of Morocco gives "absolute support" to the summit, called in reaction to the Camp David accords.

"Morocco is prepared to contribute with all its means to the liberation of the Arabs and their lands," said Foreign Minister Boucetta.

The Moroccan foreign minister also urged that the Baghdad summit be "a summit of unification where the members should abstain from isolating other Arab states".

IRAQI FOREIGN MINISTER HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE 30 OCT

JN301149Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1145 GMT 30 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 30 October--Dr Sa'dun Hammadi, Iraqi foreign minister and chairman of the Arab foreign ministers conference, said that the delegations of Syria, Jordan and Palestine have submitted written working papers to the conference. He said the meeting was held in a friendly atmosphere.

In a press conference he held after the morning meeting of the Arab foreign ministers conference, Hammadi pointed out that Iraq has submitted a working paper including proposals to emerge with resolutions that include Iraq's views of what constitutes minimum agreement among the Arab countries to confront the current situation. He emphasized that the Iraqi working paper tries to express a common denominator for all the Arab countries.

Dr Hammadi said that the delegations of Iraq, Syria, Jordan, Palestine, Morocco and Lebanon spoke in the morning meeting, clearly explaining the stands of their governments toward developments in the Arab situation after the declaration of the Camp David results.

Dr Hammadi further said that the most important characteristics of the conference is that it is being held to discuss one main subject, namely, all aspects of the Arab-Zionist conflict. The conference is being held in a crisis situation and for this reason it is expected that the results of the conference will be decisive and will tackle the crisis issue.

Dr Hammadi stressed that the acceptable minimum for confronting the current situation is that which can stop the collapse in the Arab homeland and resist the hostile wave that resulted from the Camp David agreements.

Hammadi cautioned that in case a minimum agreement is not reached, then every Arab country will work for the sake of Palestine according to its views and stands. He said that Iraq will not stop the struggle for the sake of the great issue of the Arabs if the conference fails to reach results.

Hammadi said that Iraq called for convening the conference despite its realization of the particularities of the stands of certain Arab countries, proceeding from its faith in the possibility of reaching a minimum unified Arab stand regardless of the particularities which might add to or subtract from the minimum.

Hammadi continued, saying that he expects the Charter for Joint National Action which Syria and Iraq signed last week to positively reflect on the conference. He said that what has been achieved between Iraq and Syria is a pan-Arab event to the benefit of the Arabs and in response to the aspirations of all progressive and faithful elements in the world.

The Arab foreign ministers will resume meeting this evening.

ARAB FOREIGN MINISTERS MEET 30 OCT IN SECOND CLOSED SESSION

JN301558Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1554 GMT 30 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 30 October--The Arab foreign ministers met again this evening in As-Salam Palace in Baghdad, where they held a second closed meeting.

The session began with speeches delivered by several heads of delegations. The foreign ministers then began a discussion of the working papers submitted by several Arab countries about the course of joint Arab action and the steps that should be taken to face the capitulatory schemes hostile to the Arab nation. Dr Sa'dun Hammadi, chairman of the conference, announced that the sessions are proceeding well. In a press conference held in the press center following the end of the evening session, Dr Hammadi added that viewpoints are being submitted frankly and that there are no problems. He said that the foreign ministers conference is discussing a specific issue: the current Arab position and ways to confront the Zionist enemy and strengthen the Arab position.

Dr Hammadi added that the heads of the Saudi Arabian, Libyan, Kuwaiti, Syrian, PDRY, YAR, Tunisian, Algerian, Sudanese, UAE and Omani delegations spoke at the evening session.

Dr Hammadi said that the Kuwaiti delegation submitted a working paper to the conference. He added that the conference will resume tomorrow morning to hear speeches by other heads of delegations. Discussions will then begin to clarify viewpoints and reach specific resolutions that will be submitted to the summit conference.

ARAB LEAGUE SECRETARY GENERAL ABSENT FROM MEETINGS

JN301910Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1908 GMT 30 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 30 October--Dr Sa'dun Hammadi, chairman of the Arab foreign ministers conference, has said that he expects the Arab League secretary general's absence from the conference to be discussed at the meetings.

In a statement to reporters here tonight, Dr Hammadi added that the Iraqi Foreign Ministry had invited the Arab League secretary general; however, he did not attend for private reasons.

ARAB FOREIGN MINISTERS DELIVER SPEECHES AT CONFERENCE

JN3110037Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0810 GMT 31 Oct 78 JN

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 31 October--The Arab foreign ministers conference held two closed sessions yesterday, one in the morning and the other in the evening, during which they listened to the speeches of 16 Arab delegations representing Iraq, Syria, Jordan, Palestine, Morocco, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Libya, Kuwait, PDRY, YAR, Tunisia, Algeria, Sudan, UAE and Oman.

Faruq Qaddumi, head of the Palestinian delegation, stressed the Palestinian people's determination to wrest their legitimate rights. He called for formulating the Arab position and changing from a position of defense to offense. Qaddumi announced the rejection of the self-rule conspiracy.

M'hamed Boucetta, Moroccan minister of state in charge of foreign affairs and cooperation, called for the clearing of the Arab atmosphere through the current talks.

Lebanon's representative to the conference, 'Abd ar-Rahman as-Sulh, stated that the Camp David agreements had raised many doubts and reservations due to their negative results on the Arab struggle; their ignoring of the Palestinian people's rights and the idea of resettlement of the Palestinian people, which is rejected by the Arabs. He pointed out the dangerous situation existing in areas adjacent to the enemy.

The morning session was then adjourned, to be resumed the same evening.

At the evening session, Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal delivered his country's speech. The Saudi prince stressed that the meetings tend toward unity of Arab ranks and the reaffirmation of the Arabs' adherence to the Rabat summit resolutions. He said emphasis must be placed on positive issues and stressed the necessity to do away with emotional reaction.

He reaffirmed that Saudi Arabia does not consider the Camp David agreements as an acceptable peace formula. However, he added, his country believes no benefit can result from blaming one country or the other or blaming certain international positions. The Saudi prince emphasized the necessity to confront challenges and formulate a well-studied plan based on facts, objectivity and seriousness.

The Libyan secretary of foreign affairs stressed in his speech that what has taken place threatens the Arab ranks. There is a limit to personal initiatives. He stressed that Egypt's undertaking a separate peace went beyond the limit and therefore is not acceptable. He added that the struggle with the enemy is one of civilization and a question of "to be or not to be."

He violently criticized the United States for its position and called on the Arabs to revise their attitudes toward the United States. The Libyan representative called for the As-Sadat regime to be treated as a real ally of Israel. He pointed out that no bilateral problems exist between Libya and Egypt and that the only problem is a pan-Arab one.

Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister, stressed the necessity to adhere to the Rabat summit resolutions which stipulate that no peace, no recognition and no negotiations with the enemy must take place.

These resolutions, he added, represent the simplest framework for joint Arab policy. He also stressed the necessity for definite methods for Arab cooperation in this field, pointing out that the meeting must not be directed against Egypt and its Arab affiliation. The Syrian foreign minister interrupted the Kuwaiti minister, stressing the illegality of the As-Sadat agreements. Khaddam pointed out that Menahem Begin did not sign the issue of settlements until he got approval to do so from the Zionist Knesset, while As-Sadat had acted alone. The Syrian foreign minister said that As-Sadat is leading the Arab nation on the road to destruction.

In the speech he delivered, the PDRY foreign minister stated that As-Sadat's course will undoubtedly transform the Zionist and U.S. plans into facts. He called on the Arabs to confront the dangerous Camp David results and implement the Algiers and Rabat summit resolutions. He also stressed that the Palestinian cause is the cause of all the Arabs.

He added that the Camp David agreements and their results, foremost of which is the separate peace between the Egyptian ruling regime and Israel, are the consequence of the capitulationist course rejected by the Arab masses. He also stressed that the conference should condemn these agreements.

YAR Foreign Minister 'Abdallah al-Asnaj stressed the necessity to keep away from emotionalism and to use legitimate means. He stressed that the Camp David agreements do not achieve a comprehensive, just and lasting peace. He also stressed that the struggle must not be transformed into an inter-Arab struggle.

The chief of the Algerian delegation, Rida Malik, said that the meeting acquires great importance due to the situation created by Egypt's deviation and its becoming an ally of the enemy at the expense of the fateful cause. He stressed the necessity for the conference to produce significant results and clear positions which will reflect the Arab nation's determination and consolidate its struggle against the Zionist enemy. He also called for standing firmly by Syria and Palestine, as they are considered the frontline.

The Sudanese representative said: "We are attending not to condemn anybody but to deal with a dangerous situation we are facing."

Omani representative Yusuf al-'Alawi stressed the necessity of discussing the shaky Arab situation. He added that Oman's position is based on the necessity for the Palestinian people to exercise their legitimate rights of self-determination.

He called on the Arabs not to isolate Egypt but to conduct a dialog with it if its course is erroneous.

Jordan's chief delegate, Hasan Ibrahim, stressed that the Arab nation is facing a recurrent danger in its struggle with the enemy. He stated that Jordan completely adheres to its responsibilities toward the Palestinian cause. Jordan will not hesitate to employ all its political and military capabilities for the Palestinian people whenever the circumstances of the struggle with the enemy require this.

Hasan Ibrahim stated that the Camp David agreements do not meet the requirements of a just and lasting peace. He affirmed that proposals by the Iraqi Revolution Command Council to bolster the Arab nation's steadfastness represent an important element in the joint Arab action program.

Syrian Minister's Speech

JN3016422 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 30 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad--The Arab foreign ministers will resume their meetings in the Iraqi capital this evening to draft the agenda of the Arab summit conference, which will be held in Baghdad Thursday. The Arab foreign ministers held two sessions in the morning, one open and the other closed.

Syrian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam addressed the open session. He said: Out of their appreciation of their historic responsibilities and out of commitment to the joint pan-Arab fate, the Syrian and Iraqi leaders have reached an agreement between themselves drawn up by Presidents Hafiz al-Asad and Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr. The agreement includes qualitative changes in the relations between the two countries, with the aim of confronting the common enemy and achieving the unity of the two countries as a step on the path of Arab unity.

Speaking about the defeatist stands of the Egyptian regime, Khaddam said: The Arab nation is currently facing an odd and unique situation--a situation in which an Arab state has been stripped from the Arab nation, and the leaders of this state indulge in the process of estrangement, going in a direction opposite from the movement and logic of history.

Khaddam affirmed that this situation was no surprise to us because the political line followed by As-Sadat was destined to reach such results. We have drawn attention to this several times, he said.

Khaddam added: In its analysis of these stands, the Syrian Arab Republic proceeded from a clear vision of the development of events and an objective analysis of the stands of the Egyptian Government during the October War and after it, and of U.S. efforts then to cause a disunified approach to the Arab-Israeli dispute.

Khaddam pointed out that a big crime begins with a small sin. Silence over the small sin can only help the sin grow to a crime whose consequences and results might be difficult to contain without great sacrifice and loss.

Khaddam affirmed that hesitation in dealing with a question in a certain phase might be difficult to deal with in subsequent phases, because suitable attention to a question should come at the appropriate time. Otherwise, it will be futile to deal with the question, and perhaps become even impossible to deal with it.

After enumerating the negative aspects of the Camp David agreements regarding Egypt, the Palestinian issue and occupied Arab areas, including the city of Jerusalem, and regarding the Arab economy and international legitimacy, Khaddam affirmed that the contents of the Camp David agreements are contrary to the Arab summit resolutions in Khartoum, Algiers and Rabat.

Khaddam called for achieving a balance of power in the area. He presented two lists, including the budget of the enemy War Ministry and U.S. aid to the enemy.

Khaddam called for punishing the Egyptian regime. He said: The application of the Arab League Council's resolution issued in April, 1950 is urgent and necessary because there is nothing more dangerous or serious than what As-Sadat has done.

Lebanese Delegate's Speech

JN302143Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 30 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad--The Lebanese delegate to the Arab foreign ministers conference currently meeting in Baghdad today made a speech on behalf of Dr Salim al-Huss, Lebanese prime minister and acting foreign minister, explaining the situation in Lebanon. He defined the role of the conference as the need to contain the negative results of the Camp David conference regarding the Lebanese crisis.

The Lebanese delegate raised several questions in the speech. These included the Camp David agreements, which arcused concern and reservations, particularly regarding Arab solidarity and the overlooking of the Palestinian Arab people's right to their homeland. The delegate's speech affirmed that the Lebanese issue should be a joint Arab responsibility, because Lebanon is a target of a Zionist conspiracy manifested in southern Lebanon, on which Israel imposed its domination through enlisting the help of local armed groups that prevented the entry of the Lebanese Army into southern Lebanon.

The chairman of the Lebanese delegation said: Our Arab brothers owe us their help in forcing Israel to respond to international unanimity, in order that the state of Lebanon may regain its sovereignty. The conference of the Arab foreign ministers participating in the Arab Deterrent Forces recently held in Bayt ad-Din recommended the implementation of the resolutions of the Cairo summit conference in full. We expect from the Arab summit conference full and effective support to implement these resolutions.

Saudi Minister's Speech

LD302302Y Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2230 GMT 30 Oct 78 LD

[Text] In his speech at the second session of the Arab foreign ministers' conference in Baghdad, Saudi Foreign Minister His Royal Highness the amir Sa'ud al'Faysal reaffirmed that the Arab nation, in its most crucial historic situation, does not lack wisdom and objectivity in its endeavor to realize its pan-Arab aims.

His highness called on Arabs to handle the Arab cause in the light of concepts which will bolster international respect for and understanding of it. He also called for the unification of Arab forces and the closing of ranks within the framework of true intentions, and for the Arab supreme interest to be given priority over everything else. He also called for objectivity.

Jordanian Minister's Speech

JN311106Y Amman JNA in Arabic 1015 GMT 31 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 31 October--Hasan Ibrahim, minister of state for foreign affairs and head of the Jordanian delegation to the Baghdad Arab foreign ministers conference, said that the Jordanian delegation submitted a working paper to the conferees during the meeting which they held at noon yesterday. He added that the Syrian and Palestinian delegations also submitted working papers.

Hasan Ibrahim delivered a speech at yesterday's meeting. Hasan Ibrahim said that the initiative of fraternal Iraq came at a time when we all felt the need for an Arab meeting at the highest level to face this critical phase in our history.

Talking about the Jordanian stand toward the current Arab situation, Hasan Ibrahim reiterated that Jordan is completely committed to its responsibilities toward the Palestine question. He said that the people and the leadership of this country have lived the pains of the Palestine question and have supported the brothers in Palestine in their struggle against foreign domination and expulsion. Jordan has never hesitated, Hasan Ibrahim continued, to devote all its political and military forces to support the people of Palestine whenever the struggle with the enemy called for it.

Hasan Ibrahim also talked about Jordan's understanding of the Camp David agreements. He said: We in Jordan believe that these two agreements do not meet with the requirements of a just and lasting peace because the two agreements are not tied together by an explicit, compulsory commitment. He added that we believe that since the basic requirements of a just and lasting peace have not yet been reached, peace will not be achieved.

He said: Since 1968 Jordan has called for a comprehensive and just peace in the Middle East. Jordan has frequently tried to put UN Resolution 242 into force. Furthermore, Jordan has participated in the efforts of the world community to implement the UN resolutions; hence, Jordan took part in the Geneva conference. Jordan's objective was and still is to reach a comprehensive and just settlement that will meet with our legitimate national tasks as well as the aspirations of our people and nation.

He said that Jordan submitted a working paper which we believe would be a good framework for drawing up a responsible, serious plan to be shouldered by all the Arabs with the aim of reaching our goals. He explained that the plan should include the requirements of the joint political, diplomatic, military, economic and informational work.

Iraqi Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi, who is chairman of the Arab foreign ministers conference, said that Iraq had submitted a working paper calling for the achievement of the minimum joint Arab efforts to stop the collapse in the Arab ranks and to cope with the hostile results of the Camp David agreements.

THIRD SESSION OF CONFERENCE HELD 31 OCT

JN310838Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0800 GMT 31 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 31 October--The Arab foreign ministers conference resumed its meetings here today for the second day. This is the third session of the conference since it began meeting on Monday morning.

The Arab foreign ministers will listen to the speeches of the other delegation heads and will discuss the written working paper submitted to the conference.

Iraq, Syria, Palestine, Jordan and Kuwait so far have submitted working papers to the conference.

The heads of the Arab delegations participating in the conference began delivering their speeches.

'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Khalifah Al Thani, Qatari finance and oil minister, praised the Iraq call for the convening of an Arab summit conference and the Arab foreign ministers conference. He said this demonstrates the huge responsibility shouldered by Iraq in regard to the Arab nation's issues.

The Qatari minister praised the Iraqi-Syrian meeting and said that it was a step forward toward uniting Arab ranks. It is also evidence of the Arab nation's capabilities for unity, cohesion and joint action. He reaffirmed his country's adherence to the Rabat and Algiers summit resolutions on the Palestinian cause, which contain support for the Palestinian people to enable them to exercise their right to self-determination and return to their homeland and provide for the withdrawal of Zionist forces from all the occupied Arab territories, including Jerusalem.

Concluding his speech, he expressed the hope that the meetings will produce results which will restore Arab solidarity.

The morning meeting of the Arab foreign ministers has been adjourned. During the morning session, the heads of the delegations of Qatar, Bahrain, Morocco, Djibouti, Mauritania, Somalia and the PLO delivered speeches.

The Arab foreign ministers conference will resume their meeting tomorrow morning.

Qatari Foreign Minister

NC311046Y Doha QNA in Arabic 0923 GMT 31 Oct 78 NC

[Text] Baghdad, 31 October--Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Kahlifah Al Thani, minister of finance and oil and head of the Qatari delegation to the Arab foreign ministers conference now underway in Baghdad, has affirmed that "the state of Qatar explained its view on the Camp David accords through the statement issued by the Qatari Cabinet about this subject." He said we believe that any statement must give the Palestinian Arab people their rights to self-determination, to return to their homeland and to set up an independent state on their national soil under the leadership of the PLO.

Addressing the morning session of the conference today, the head of the Qatari delegation affirmed that "the state of Qatar believes that there can be no peace without total Israeli withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories, including the holy city of Jerusalem, as part of any settlement." He also affirmed Qatar's adherence to the resolutions of the Algiers and Rabat summit conferences and to all the relevant UN resolutions on the Palestine question and the Middle East problem.

Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz called for matters to be tackled in a spirit of brotherhood, removed from anything that could aggravate the division and give the enemies of the Arab nation the chance to control its destiny. He said we are not meeting today in order to accuse or isolate any Arab state.

The text of the speech by Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Khalifah Al Thani, before the Arab foreign ministers conference today, is as follows:

Mr Chairman, brother ministers and heads of participating delegations:

Before explaining my country's views on the points raised at yesterday's meeting and on the views expressed by some brothers, I would like to express deep appreciation and gratitude for the warm welcome and good hospitality accorded us since our arrival in this hospitalbe fraternal country which we hold in esteem and appreciation.

Mr Chairman, we thank Iraq's president, government and people, for inviting us to this important meeting which indicates the big responsibility which Iraw is shouldering toward the causes of the Arab nation.

Mr Chairman, I would also like to congratulate your excellency for your nomination as chariman of this conference. We are confident that you are worthy of this nomination in view of your wisdom, knowledge and ability to chair such a conference.

Mr Chairman, we are meeting in fraternal Iraq, which a few days ago was the scene of the historic meeting between Baghdad and Damascus. This meeting has pleased us all because it has given the Arab nation another push forward toward marshaling the Arab ranks and has demonstrated the ability of the Arab nation to rise, unite and work together.

Mr Chairman, the state of Qatar has explained its view on the Camp David accords and there is no need to repeat the cabinet statement about this subject.

We believe that any settlement must give the Palestinian Arab people their right to self-determination, to return to their homeland and to set up an independent state on their national soil under the leadership of the PLO.

The Palestinian Arab people, who have greatly suffered as a result of international plotting, must have the right to participate in any just settlement as a basic partner. We also believe that there can be no peace without total Israeli withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories, including the holy city of Jerusalem, which cannot be relinquished, as part of any settlement. Mr Chairman, the state of Qatar has always affirmed its total adherence to the resolutions of the Algiers and Rabat summit conferences. My delegation also reaffirms the need to adhere to all the relevant UN resolutions on the Palestine question and the Middle East problem.

Mr Chairman, we are meeting today full of hope that our conference will produce results that will restore to the Arab nation its solidarity, which was most splendidly displayed during the glorious October war which our Arab nation waged against the Zionist enemy.

For 30 years, our Arab nation has faced great and serious challenges. Our Arab nation has struggled and will continue to struggle for its first cause, the Palestinian cause. The future will inevitably be in favor of this nation, God willing, because we are owners of rights and victory is certainly forthcoming.

Mr Chairman, we all realize the responsibility resting on our shoulders. We firmly believe in the need to cement the cracks, unify our words and marshal our ranks for the sake of a better future. We are strong when we are united and weak when we are divided. The noble Arab nation will inevitably recover its might and grandeur, relying on the unity of all its sons.

Mr Chairman, we are not meeting in order to accuse or isolate any Arab state. From this premise we must tackle matters in a spirit of brotherhood, removed from anything that could aggravate the division and give the enemies of our nation the chance to control its destiny.

Mr Chairman, we m st all realize that no matter what our differences are, we are still one nation. We must meet as brothers in the long march toward a better future. We must seek to unite and not divide, regardless of the differences in our points of view.

Any attempt to isolate any Arab side or level accusations against it will not restore solidarity and unity to this nation, but will increase the differences among the sons of the Arab nation. We are certain that none of us wants further division and estrangement. We are passing through a crucial stage in the history of our nation, which requires that we rise to the level of the responsibility. We must tackle matters objectively and with wisdom and determination to restore Arab solidarity.

Mr Chairman, I would like to thank again the Iraqi Republic for the good reception it has accorded us. I invoke God Almighty to help us unify our ranks and work for the welfare of our nation. May God's mercy and peace be with you.

Committee on Unified Working Paper

JN311003Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1005 GMT 31 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 31 October--The Arab foreign ministers decided during their meeting today to form a six-member committee to prepare a unified working paper based on the submitted Arab working papers. The committee is made up of Iraq, Syria, Palestine, Jordan, Tunisia and Kuwait.

INA has learned that the committee will begin its meetings this evening in order to have the unified working paper ready for the Arab foreign ministers meeting tomorrow morning.

The work of this committee will concentrate on the working papers submitted by Iraq, Syria, Jordan and Kuwait as well as on the speeches and remarks of delegation heads who delivered speeches in the sessions today and yesterday morning and evening.

Iraqi Minister's Press Conference

JN311120Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1035 GMT 31 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 31 October--Dr Sa'dun Hammadi, chairman of the Arab foreign ministers conference and Iraqi foreign minister, has stressed that a friendly and constructive atmosphere prevailed in the morning meeting. He said that the positive spirit that prevails at the conference indicates that there is a good possibility for reaching agreement on practical proposals for joint Arab action to submit to the Arab summit conference.

In a press conference after the morning meeting of the Arab foreign ministers, Dr Hammad said that the morning meeting was confined to hearing the statements of the heads of the Qatari, Bahraini, Moroccan, Djibouti and Somali delegations. He said that the heads of these delegations expressed their governments' stand toward the issues under discussion.

Dr Hammadi pointed out that discussions began after the statements were made. A number of the delegations made remarks and comments on the previous discussions. He said that agreement has been reached to form a committee of Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Syria, Palestine and Tunisia to study the written working papers and remarks that were submitted in the previous meetings in order to come up with a unified document to be submitted to the conference at its meeting at 1000 tomorrow. Dr Hammadi said that the committee will begin work at 1700 today.

In reply to questions from Arab and foreign journalists, Dr Hammadi repeated his emphasis that the conference is discussing ways of facing the current Arab situation and is trying to reach agreement on measures that will take into consideration all likely possibilities.

In reply to a question on the possibility of moving the Arab League headquarters after Egypt's public dealings with the Zionist entity, Dr Hammadi said that this issue was discussed at previous meetings and is expected to be discussed when a unified working paper is submitted.

Dr Hammadi pointed out: At the conference there were some personal interpretations over certain stands, but it seems to me that the different interpretations are mostly superficial and verbal rather than real.

In reply to a question on the possibility of establishing a Palestinian state as a separate article for discussion at the conference, Dr Hammadi said: This issue was not discussed as a separte subject, but I think this subject was mentioned in many of the remarks made by a number of members of the delegations.

In reply to a question on Iraq's proposal to establish a fund to meet the requirements of the confrontation states and to help Egypt emerge from its economic crisis and on whether there were amendments to this proposal, Dr Hammadi said: The issue of Arab financial solidarity to strengthen the Arab stand vis-a-vis the Zionist enemy is, it seems to me, agreed on.

Dr Hammadi stressed that the discussions at the meetings held so far included the important issue of ways to strengthen the Arab stand economically, politically and militarily.

SYRIA'S KHADDAM SAYS MEETINGS PROCEEDING WELL

JN311040Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1030 GMT 31 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 31 October--Syrian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam said in a statement to INA that the meetings of the Arab foreign ministers in Baghdad are proceeding well and satisfactorily. He said that there is a determination that the Arab nation will reject the Camp David results. Khaddam stressed that the Arab nation, which remained steadfast for centuries in the face of all forms of occupation and aggression, will also remain steadfast in the face of this new aggression and alliance consisting of the As-Sadat regime, the Zionist entity and U.S. imperialism.

IRAQI BA'TH PARTY, LEBANESE NATIONALIST DELEGATIONS MEET

JN301425Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1415 GMT 30 Oct 78 JN

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 30 October--A delegation of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the Lebanese nationalist movement held a meeting here today under Dr Munif Ar-Razzaz, assistant secretary general of the Ba'th Party, and George Hawi, secretary general of the Lebanese Communist Party.

During the meeting, the two delegations reviewed the current Arab situation in light of the historic and pan-Arab statement of the Revolution Command Council regarding support for joint Arab action and the Joint National Action Charter of the two fraternal countries Iraq and Syria.

The two delegations also reviewed the current situation in the Lebanese arena and the importance of stressing Lebanon's unity and Arabism, and of strengthening steadfasting in the face of the conspiracies that aim at dividing Lebanon and the ranks of the Lebanese People.

The delegation of the Lebanese nationalist movement valued the Joint National Action Charter between fraternal Iraq and Syria, since it strengthens the Arab nation's potentials in confronting imperialist and Zionist machinations in the entire Arab region.

PLO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE

JN302053Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 2040 GMT 30 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 30 December--Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, member of the PLO Executive Committee and member of the Palestinian delegation to the Arab foreign ministers conference, has said that the Palestinian working paper submitted to the conference contains three basic issues.

At a press conference held here tonight, 'Abd Rabbuh said that the paper affirms that the conference should emerge with a firm condemnation of the two Camp David agreements and As-Sadat's policy. It should also adopt practical measures to impose a boycott on As-Sadat's regime. It is also important for the conference to condemn U.S. policy toward the Arab nation and the Palestinian people, since this policy is hostile to Arab rights and perpetuates the domination of the U.S.-Zionist alliance, which is the archenemy of the Arab nation.

In its third topic, the paper calls for affirmation of and commitment to the resolutions of the Arab summit conference in Rabat, particularly those pertaining to Arab rights in Palestine, the right to return; self-determination; establishment of an independent Palestinian state; and the liberation of the occupied Arab territories, particularly Arab Jerusalem, as well as confirmation of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Mr 'Abd Rabbuh said that the Palestinian delegation stresses the necessity of extending aid and support to the confrontation parties. He added that genuine Arab solidarity is one that is based on confronting the policy of Israel, As-Sadat and the United States, and isolating this hostile trinity.

FATAH LEADER ABU IYAD ON PALESTINIAN UNITY

NC280940Y Doha QNA in Arabic 0900 GMT 28 Oct 78 NC

[Text] Kuwait, 28 October--Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, who is second in command in Fatah, has ruled out the creation of Palestinian unity, embracing all factions of the Palestinian resistance. He, however, expressed a belief in the possibility of achieving the highest level of cooperation among the resistance factions in the military, political, information and financial spheres as an alternative to this unity.

In a statement published in the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-QABAS today, Abu Iyad says that the PLO has sought several times to open a dialog with Washington, but the U.S. conditions for starting such a dialog were complex and not objective.

Abu Iyad affirmed that despite its setbacks, a day will come when the Arab nation will be able to punish the United States by harming its interests in the area because of the U.S. partiality toward Israel.

Abu Iyad also stressed that the doors have not been closed with Iraq and that the problems which cropped up recently do not mean that the doors will be closed to a serious and responsible dialog between the two sides.

FATAH CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBER ON 'ARAFAT TRIP, SOVIET REACTIONS

NC271144Y Doha QNA in Arabic 1055 GMT 27 Oct 78 NC

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 27 October--Salim az-Za'nun, alias Abu al-Adib, Fatah Central Committee member and Fatah representative in Kuwait and the Gulf, has said that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat does not intend to visit any other country after his visit to the Soviet Union, which is scheduled to begin within the next 2 days.

In an exclusive statement to the QNA correspondent in Kuwait, Abu al-Adib said that the aim of the visit--during which 'Arafat will be accompanied by a Palestinian revolution delegation--will be to complete the consultations started by a Palestinian revolution delegation, which visited Moscow at the end of last August.

Abu al-Adib pointed out that consultations are continuing between the Palestinian revolution and the Soviet Union either by way of visits or messages, since the current phase has become grave due to "the deception" suffered by the Arab regimes at the hand of U.S. President Jimmy Carter.

Abu al-Adib went on to say that all that used to be said to the Arab rulers about the U.S. balanced efforts concerning the Middle East has proven to be a misleading mirage. He expressed the belief that Menahem Begin was able, in the end, to obtain 99 percent of his plan, which had earlier been rejected in Ismailia.

Abu al-Adib emphasized that vis-a-vis this serious impasse, the Arabs have nothing other than to depend first on themselves and to join in a unified stand with the socialist camp states headed by the Soviet Union so as to strengthen the phase of steadfastness and resistance.

KUWAIT

FOREIGN MINISTER ON EGYPT'S POSITION, BAGHDAD CONFERENCE

LD301742Y Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 30 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, in a statement published today in the Saudi AL-NADWAH and carried by the KUWAITI NEWS AGENCY, affirmed that there is no Arab state which has the intention of working for the isolation of Egypt, because Egypt is the heart of the Arab nation and it is half of the Arab world.

He said Kuwait believes that the current fateful challenges confronting the Arab nation make it incumbent on the Baghdad conference to work according to a committed Arab strategy which devotes all the energies of the Arab nation to the cause of recovering Arab rights and upholding the dignity and honor of the Arab man.

He announced Kuwait's support for Iraq's call concerning the setting up of a national fund to finance the military needs of the confrontation states facing the Zionist enemy.

SAUDI ARABIA

YAR FOREIGN MINISTER VISITS JIDDA EN ROUTE TO BAGHDAD

JN301308Y San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 30 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Foreign Minister 'Abdallah al-Asnaj today arrived in Baghdad to attend the Arab foreign ministers meeting.

The foreign minister stopped earlier this morning in Jidda en route to Baghdad. He met with the Saudi crown prince and regent, Fahd ibn 'Aba al-'Aziz. They discussed issues of common interest.

Following the meeting Foreign Minister 'Abdallah al-Asnaj said that his visit to the fraternal Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is within the framework of continuous bilateral meetings and in accordance with the common desire to coordinate and exchange views on the various issues. He added that the YAR is seriously studying the need for holding a special meeting of the Arabian Peninsula states in order to take adequate measures to serve the Arab cause and the restoration of the legitimate Arab rights in Palestine, Sinai, the Golan and the West Bank.

The Arabian Peninsula states, the foreign minister added, should also consider other measures to safeguard their security against foreign invasion and to draw up an Arab strategy [words indistinct].

AFP: ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS WITH PRC EXPECTED

OW310352Y Hong Kong AFP in English 0315 GMT 31 Oct 78 OW

[Text] Hong Kong, 31 Oct (AFP)--Negotiations are quietly underway for the establishment of diplomatic relations between Saudi Arabia and China, the daily SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST reported today.

Citing a reliable but unidentified source, the paper said that if all goes well an announcement could be expected within two months.

"The move will represent a major achievement in China's already highly successful relations with Arab countries, for Saudi Arabia is not only the pillar of the Arab world but also the cradle of one of the world's largest religions," the paper said. It added that in the past six months there had been numerous indications that the two countries were preparing to normalise their relations. Saudi nationals had been visiting Peking and other cities, as private individuals but obviously with the tacit approval of the Riyadh government.

For its part, the POST said, Peking had been paying increasing attention to the opinions of the Riyadh leaders, endorsing many of the Saudi policies, particularly with regard to the Middle East and the oil prices, while the Chinese population has been regularly informed of the Saudi attitude.

"A definite sign came when Oman, a strategic, oil and mineral-rich country on the south-east rim of the Arabian Peninsula, established diplomatic relations with Peking six months ago. The sultan of Oman could not have acted without consulting Saudi Arabia," the POST said. However, it asserted, it was still believed that Saudi Arabia would be the last of the four remaining Arab countries to send an envoy to Peking, taking into consideration the very close ties between Riyadh and the government on Taiwan.

UAE

PRESIDENT RECEIVES IRANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER

JN301303Y Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1230 GMT 30 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Al-Khaznah, 30 October--UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan received this morning at Al-Khaznah Palace Amir Khosrow Afshar-Qasemlu, the Iranian foreign minister. The meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Ahmad Khalifah as-Suwaydi and Iranian Ambassador to the UAE Ebrahim Teymuri.

In a statement to the EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY after the meeting, the Iranian foreign minister stated that he had delivered a letter to the UAE president from Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi on a number of issues of common interest within the framework of bilateral relations.

YEMEN--PDRY

BULGARIA'S TODOR ZHIVKOV MAKES OFFICIAL VISIT

LD281535Y Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 28 Oct 78 LD/EA

[Summary] Bulgarian head of state and party leader Todor Zhivkov arrived in Aden this morning on an official visit to the PDRY at the invitation of Yemeni Socialist Party Secretary 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il and head of state 'Ali Nasir Muhammad.

Friendship, Cooperation Declaration

AU292000Y Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 29 Oct 78 AU

[Summary] "Today Todor Zhivkov, BCP Central Committee first secretary and State Council chairman; 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, secretary general of the Yemen Socialist Party Central Committee; and 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, PDRY premier, signed a declaration on developing the friendship and cooperation between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the PDRY.

The declaration states: Inspired by the ideas of the scientific socialism and the principles of proletarian internationalism, and convinced that the solidarity of the socialist community countries, the developing countries, and all progressive factors in the world is an important factor in the struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, Zionism, racism, and apartheid, and for strengthening the independence and progressive development of the newly liberated countries and causing a positive effect on the international situation, the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the PDRY proclaim their general will to strengthen their relations of friendship and cooperation."

After issuing the declaration, a plan on cooperation between the BCP and the Yemen Socialist Party was signed. "A broad exchange of experience in the ideological and ideopolitical activity of the two parties is envisaged."

Zhivkov, Isma'il Dinner Toasts

AU291915Y Sofia BTA in English 1840 GMT 29 Oct 78 AU

[Text] Sofia, Oct 29 (BTA)--Mr 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, secretary general of the CC of the Socialist Party of Yemen, made a high assessment of the aid and support rendered by the Bulgarian Communist Party and the Bulgarian Government in establishing the people's democratic power and making a social progress in that country.

In the toast speech he delivered last night at the dinner given for the Bulgarian party and state leader he pointed out that the present visit was a proof of the solidarity which links the two parties and peoples against the forces of imperialism and reaction, for liberation, progress, socialism and peace in the world.

Mr 'Abd al Fattah Isma'il dwelt in detail on this year's events in the PDRY. He added: "No matter that our people succeeded to manage with the plots of internal enemies and obtained a great victory by setting up the Socialist Party of Yemen, armed with the ideology of the working class, imperialism and reaction intensify their secret aspirations against our revolution and state, they employ all means--political, military, economic and cultural--for foreign intervention."

Mr 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il said that these days enormous military concentrations are carried out and mercenary camps opened at the borders of the PDRY. The regime in San'a' is made a cat's-paw of a military propaganda attack against the Yemeni revolution, represented by the progressive regime in the southern party and by all progressive achievements reached by our Yemeni people in the two parts of the country.

He continued: "imperialism, Zionism and reaction are working industriously towards establishing the U.S. rule in our Arab region, for reinforcing the domination of imperialism. The entire imperialist and Zionist activity is a pressure on the progressive regimes in the area aiming at their giving up the strategic slogan for a union with the socialist countries headed by the friendly Soviet Union."

The leader of the Socialist Party of Yemen condemned the Camp David traitorous agreement in his toast speech as well.

Highly assessing the policy of all-round expanding and consolidating friendship and cooperation with Bulgaria, which is pursued by the PDRY, Mr Todor Zhivkov stated: "It is my pleasant duty to assure you that we are prepared in the future too to enrich, make more intensive and diverse our mutual cooperation. Its reinforcement acquires a special importance now, when the imperialists and the Arab reaction have tried to divert the PDRY from the road taken of a democratic socio-economic development".

He pointed out that the setting up of the Socialist Party of Yemen is a great success in the struggle of the Yemeni people against the aspirations of imperialism and reaction, in the struggle for the building up of the new society.

The Bulgarian party and state leader stressed that the people of the PDRY are supported by the socialist community states headed by the Soviet Union, by all the revolutionary and democratic forces in the world. He also voiced the unreserved solidarity of the BCP, of the Bulgarian people, with the just cause of the people of the PDRY. Mr Todor Zhivkov added: "We support the constructive proposal of the PDRY for a peaceful settlement of the problems between the two Yemeni states; we support the peaceful policy of your government for friendship and cooperation with the neighbouring states and peoples".

Underscoring the necessity of extending detente and turning it into a lasting and irreversible process, he stressed that there are still forces which refuse to consider, refuse to accept, refuse to resign to the positive trends in international relations.

Further on, dwelling on the Middle East situation, he conveyed the principled and consistent policy of Bulgaria on this matter and pointed out that now more than ever it is necessary for the progressive Arab forces to act much more united, to strengthen their friendship and cooperation with their natural friends and allies--the peoples of the socialist family. In this lies the guarantee for their free and independent development.

Joint Declaration, Protocol Signed

LD2919547 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 29 Oct 78 LD/EA

[Excerpts] Democratic Yemen's distinguished guest, Todor Zhivkov, left Aden today at 1100 after concluding his official and comradely visit to the PDRY.

Brother 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party [YSP] Central Committee, and Comrade Todor Zhivkov, first secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party [BCP] Central Committee and president of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, earlier this morning held a meeting behind closed doors which dealt with methods of developing relations between the YSP and the BCP as well as relations between the two countries.

Following this, a joint declaration between the PDRY and the People's Republic of Bulgaria was signed to develop the bonds of cooperation and friendship between the two countries. On behalf of the PDRY, the declaration was signed by brother 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, the secretary general of the YSP Central Committe, while on behalf of Bulgaria it was signed by Comrade Todor Zhivkov, first secretary of the BCP Central Committee and president of the State Council of Bulgaria.

The declaration stresses the development of the bonds of friendship and cooperation between the two countries in the economic, scientific, technological and cultural fields and the need to expand exchanges in the interests of the two peoples.

It stresses that the unity of the socialist community, the developing countries and the progressive forces of the world constituted an important factor in the struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, Zionism, racism and apartheid. It also stresses the independence, development and betterment of the newly independent countries and their positive effect on the overall international stiuation.

The declaration emphasizes the promotion of the contribution of the two countries in support of detente in international relations, and the consolidation of peace and economic and social progress of the peoples. It emphasizes the great importance of disarmament in the supreme interest of the [word indistinct] peoples.

The declaration emphasizes the unlimited solidarity of the two countries with the legitimate struggle of the peoples still under foreign influence and racist oppression for self-determination and independence [word indistinct] the objectives and principles of the United Nations.

The declaration stresses support for the struggle of the Arab peoples, and particularly the Palestinian people, against imperialism and Zionism and against attempts offering separate solution to the Middle East dispute. It emphasizes the opposition of the two countries to imperialist and reactionary plots to interfere in the internal affairs of newly independent states.

The declaration affirms the right of states to create equal economic relations to deepen the common interests of the peoples and their right to control and dispose of their natural resources. It stresses the contribution of two countries toward strengthening peace and world security.

The two countries signed a protocol for interparty cooperation for the year 1979-80. Brother Salim Salih Muhammad, candidate member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee, signed for the PDRY, and Comrade Dimitur Stanichev, secretary and member of the BCP Central Committee, signed for Bulgaria. The protocol stipulates the organization of relations between the two parties on the basis of exchanging party delegations and promoting relations between the mass organizations of the two countries and the exchange of party experience through the exchange of lecturers knowledgable in party matters.

The protocol lays down that the BCP will help to train Democratic Yemen's party cadres and promote their further development by granting scholarships for academic party studies.

After the signing of the protocol, Comrade Todor Zhivkov, first secretary of the BCP Central Committee and president of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, made a press statement in which he paid tribute to the friendly relations between the two friendly countries. He pointed out that friendship between Democratic Yemen and People's Bulgaria had deep historic roots. He said his visit to Democratic Yemen came as living confirmation of the strong friendship between the two countries. He affirmed that the results of the talks he held with officials in Democratic Yemen would provide renewed impetus and a strong foundation for deepening and expansion of cooperation and friendship between the two countries and peoples.

Zhivkov hailed the struggle of the Yemeni people and their resistance to the designs of imperialism and reaction and the determined role played by Democratic Yemen in the struggle for the defense of the right of peoples to independent development, and their struggle against imperialism, Zionism, reaction and racism.

He expressed pleasure at the establishment of the YSP and the policies pursued by the PDRY Government toward the situation between the two parts of Yemen, aimed at neighborliness with all neighboring states. He emphasized that Democratic Yemen and People's Bulgaria would walk in step on the road against imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, reaction, Zionism, and apartheid and in defense of peoples' rights to independent development, peace, peaceful coexistence and friendship among peoples.

Brother 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, also made a statement in which he pointed out that the visit of Comrade Zhivkov came as the apogee and fruit of the longstanding historical relations between the two peoples and countries, which rested on ideological, class and political foundations. He made it clear that the YSP and the BCP stood on common ground on all these issues.

He said the visit of Comrade Zhivkov had great significance toward further developing the relations between the two friendly parties, countries and peoples and that the official talks between the two sides were very positive and cordial. He confirmed the concurrence of ideas on all the issues discussed, saying: This will strengthen our conviction and faith that there are wide and brilliant prospects for developing relations between the two parties and countries to serve the common objectives and common struggle.

He said: The common struggle of the two countries is part of the process of the common struggle of the other states of the socialist community, headed by the friendly USSR, for liberation, progress, socialism and peace in the world. He stressed that Democratic Yemen would proceed firmly and in a principled manner toward strengthening relations with the friendly People's Republic of Bulgaria and its [word indistinct] Communist Party.

YEMEN--YAR

NEW MINISTERS TAKE OATH BEFORE PRESIDENT SALIH

JN281356Y San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 28 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Leader Lt Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, this morning received brothers Lt Col 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Barati, minister of the interior; Al-Qadi 'Ali al-Saman, minister of AWQAF; Muhammad Salim Basindwa, minister of information and culture; Ahmad Salih ar-Ru'ayni, minister of labor, social affairs and youth; Isma'il Ahmad al-Wazir, minister of justice; Ahmad 'Abd ar-Rahman as-Samawi, minister of finance; and Muhammad Hizam ash-Shalhatli, minister of economy. The ministers took the constitutional oath before leader President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih.

Then leader President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih addressed the ministers. In his speech, the president stressed the need for each person to concentrate his efforts in his field. The president asked the ministers to eradicate bribery and to bring bribers to court so they can be punished. The leader president emphasized that YAR policy provides for the rejection of all types of agentry and imported beliefs.

The president said that the YAR leadership is careful to have its own line and that this leadership derives its line from religion, tradition, principles and genuine values. Furthermore, the YAR leadership would benefit from past experience--especially the experience of fraternal peoples. The president added that each person should interact with the policies of the state and that this interaction should be reflected in the person's behavior and stands. Each official should realize that he is responsible and should carry out his responsibility best he can.

Concluding his speech, the leader president expressed his best wishes to the new ministers. The brothers, the new ministers, expressed their gratitude to the president and asserted that they will be worthy of the confidence the president has placed in them. They said they will carry out their new responsibility to the fullest in order to serve the citizens and the homeland.

The meeting was attended by Prime Minister 'Abd-al-'Aziz 'Abd-al-Ghani.

PRESIDENT ORDERS RELEASE OF 115 DETAINEES

JN291306Y San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 29 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Lt Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, has issued instructions to the competent quarters to release 115 detainees misled during the last abortive attempt. They have been released.

PRESIDENT APPOINTS NEW COMMANDER OF ARMORED CORPS

JN301756Y San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 30 Oct 78 JN

[Decree No 26 of 1978 issued by the president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces]

[Text] The president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, taking congnizance of the permanent constitution, of Command Council decision No 1 of 1974, of the constitutional proclamation issued on [date indistinct], of the statement of the Command Council issued on 11 October 1978, of the consitutional proclamation issued on 6 February 1978, of the officers services law No 16 of 1975, and upon the recommentation of the officers committee and the chief of the general staff, decrees the following:

Article 1. Lt Col Muhammad Husayn ar-Radi shall be appointed commander of the armored corps.

Article 2. This decree shall be in force as of the date of its issuance and shall be published in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE and the military publications.

Issued at The Armed Forces General Command on 30 October 1978. [Signed] Lt Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces.

BUTRUS GHALI MAKES STATEMENT ON WASHINGTON TALKS

NC3019302Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 30 Oct 78 NC

[Text] The members of the Egyptian delegation will meet with U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance at the State Department at 2100 Cairo time.

The radio team has learned that views will be exchanged at the meeting on the latest developments in the negotiations and the results of the bilateral talks held between the U.S. and Israeli sides.

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has made an exclusive statement to the radio team in which he said: During the current phase negotiations are taking place on the draft agreement which has been amended on the basis of observations and clarifications made by both Cairo and the Israeli Government. The United States is playing the role of a full partner during this phase. It is trying to reconcile Egyptian and the Israeli observations.

Asked why no trilateral meetings have been held for 1 week now, Dr Butrus Ghali said that this is because the Israeli delegation is in Israel. [as heard] The bilateral meetings are continuing with the U.S. side. The Egyptian delegation is continuing its meetings with the U.S. side. The U.S. side is also continuing its meetings with the Israeli side.

Asked if the Egyptian delegation's attitude during this phase is optimistic or pessimistic, Dr Butrus Ghali said that the Egyptian delegation's attitude has been characterized by optimism during all phases and that this optimism will continue during the coming phase.

CAIRO NOTES KUWAITI, SAUDI SUPPORT

NC3013162Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 30 Oct 78 NC

[Text] Kuwaiti Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir today emphasized that Egypt is the heart of the Arab nation, that it represents half the Arab world and that it is the symbol of the continuous sacrifices and efforts to safeguard the Arab rights. He added that for these reasons, no Arab state has any intention of isolating Egypt.

On the other hand, an informed source at the Saudi Foreign Ministry has stressed that in coordination with its Arab sister states, the Saudi Kingdom will work to frustrate any plan which might be submitted at the Arab foreign ministers and summit conferences in Baghdad to impose any kind of isolation on the Arab Republic of Egypt.

The Saudi sources added that Saudi Arabia and most of the fraternal Arab states continue to believe that the two conferences must mainly direct their efforts toward the realization of Arab solidarity and the adoption of a binding Arab strategy which aims at mobilizing the Arab efforts and capacities to safeguard the legitimate Arab rights and establish durable peace based on right and justice.

PRESIDENTIAL ASSISTANT SALIM LEAVES FOR NEW YORK

NC3108502Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 0805 GMT 31 Oct 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 31 October--Presidential Assistant Mamduh Salim left Cairo this morning for New York to visit the United States for a few days.

During the visit Salim will attend the meeting of the Family of Man Society in New York on Thursday. The society will award its gold medal for 1978 to President Anwar as-Sadat in acknowledgement of his great accomplishments in serving the cause of peace.

RCC RATIFIES SYRIAN-IRAQI ACTION CHARTER

JN301535Y Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 30 Oct 78 JN

[Text] The Revolution Command Council [RCC] has ratified the charter for Joint National Action signed in Baghdad by fraternal Iraq and Syria on 26 October 1978. The following is the text of the RCC decree:

In accordance with the statutes of Paragraph A of Article 42 of the Provisional Constitution, the RCC in its session on 29 October 1978 issued the following statute:

Decree No 178 for the year 1978: The ratification of the Charter for Joint National Action between Syria and the Iraq.

Article 1: The ratification of the Charter for Joint National Action between Syria and Iraq signed in Baghdad on 26 October 1978.

Article 2: This decree is to be published in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE and the ministers shall implement it.

[Signed] Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr, RCC chairman

SYRIAN, IRAQI AIRLINES TO RESUME REGULAR FLIGHTS

JN281709Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 28 Oct 78 JN

[Text] The Syrian Arab Airlines and Iraqi Airways have agreed to resume regular flights between Damascus and Baghdad as of 1 November, at a rate of two flights a week each. The commercial director of the Syrian Arab Airlines and the representative of Iraqi Airways discussed in Damascus today resuming operation of the regular flights between the two fraternal countries. It was agreed in principle to adopt the necessary measures for the resumption of these flights.

IRAQ, SYRIA SIGN MINUTES ON TRADE COOPERATION

JN281805Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1740 GMT 28 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 28 October--Iraq and Syria this evening signed joint minutes to promote cooperation between the two countries in the field of trade. These minutes come within the framework of the Charter on Joint National Action signed in Baghdad the day before yesterday by Presidents al-Bakr and al-Asad.

The minutes include the implementation of all the principles and statutes of the Arab common market in connection with the trade relations between Syria and Iraq in implementation of the Arab economic unity agreement. This is a step toward achieving Arab economic integration, doubling the volume of trade and opening trade centers in the two capitals. The minutes also include the principles to be discussed during the meeting of the joint committee for economic affairs and technical cooperation to be held next month.

The minutes were signed for Iraq by Mahdi Muhsin 'Awdah, Trade Ministry under secretary; and on the Syrian side by Dr 'Ammar Jamal, assistant to the minister of economy.

SYRIAN TECHNICAL DELEGATION LEAVES BAGHDAD

JN290949Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0908 GMT 29 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 29 October--The Syrian technical delegation headed by Dr 'Ammar Jamal, assistant minister of economy and foreign trade left Baghdad this morning after a 4-day visit to Iraq.

The delegation signed joint minutes yesterday to increase bilateral trade cooperation in implementation of the content of the October charter which was signed between the two fraternal countries on Thursday.

PAPERS COMMENT ON IRAQI-SYRIAN NATIONAL ACTION CHARTER

JN270805Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0725 GMT 27 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 27 October--Iraqi papers published today show great interest in the Baghdad charter signed in Baghdad yesterday by Iraqi President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad.

The papers emphasize that the charter is a "prominent qualitative turning point in the relations between fraternal Iraq and Syria on the path of Arab unity."

The papers carry the following headlines on their front pages: "A Joint National Action Charter Between Iraq and Syria"; "Presidents al-Bakr and al-Asad Sign the Joint National Action Charter"; "The Charter Is in the Form of Courageous, Principled and Historic Resolutions and Stands"; and "When the Future of the Nation is Threatened, Then the Efforts of its Sincere Sons Become a Necessary and Dutiful Question."

The papers also highlight in their headlines the two speeches exchanged between Presidents al-Bakr and al-Asad following the signing of the charter.

ATH-THAWRAH says that the Baghdad charter will "detonate the capabilities of the nation."

ATH-THAWRAH says in its editorial: The forthcoming Baghdad summit is requested from this very moment to understand all the positive aspects of the Baghdad national charter. This is a pan-Arab responsibility that the Arab officials should shoulder before the Arab masses.

ATH-THAWRAH adds: In these historic moments, the Arab nation is moving ahead to positions of steadfastness. The elements of Arab strength are interaction to cordon off all the elements and factors of weakness and to counteract and contain the treason of the ruler of Egypt through an instrument of struggle. Treason is retreating and is being restricted to the person of As-Sadat.

ATH-THAWRAH affirms that the Baghdad charter will "detonate boundless Arab capabilities." It says that the reply that Iraq and Syria are giving is not a temporary reply but is a qualitative change in the Arab homeland.

ATH-THAWRAH adds: This reply is historic and is qualified to shoulder all the primary tasks which the Arab revolutionary movement should perform. The reply is also a step on the path of Arab unity, which our party--the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party--has been working for as a goal for well over three decades.

ATH-THAWRAH continues: Ever since Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad arrived in Baghdad, the masses of the Arab nation were expecting a major development restoring a strategic balance to the area.

ATH-THAWRAH, the organ of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, adds: The leadership of the party and the revolution has always considered the Arab masses the main strength in the fateful battle facing the Arab nation and has always bet on the resources of the sons of the nation and the efforts of all sincere Arab patriots as major elements in the confrontation.

ATH-THAWRAH emphasizes that the Baghdad charter is a "revolutionary action requiring vigilance and preparedness by all the sons of the Arab nation." The paper says that the charter is the Arab nation's reply to the overall dangers facing this nation.

ATH-THAWRAH warns that a step such as the Baghdad national charter "will make the enemies of the Arab nation intensify their plotting."

ATH-THAWRAH calls on the Arab masses to protect the charter, to adopt and embrace it, and to be united concerning this great pan-Arab achievement.

ATH-THAWRAH says: The two fraternal countries have given a full struggling reply and have opened the doors of contemporary Arab history before the Arab nation, which is eager to proceed toward building its unity of struggle in preparation for building comprehensive Arab unity. The Baghdad charter has furnished proof of the quality of men who are shouldering the historic responsibility.

The newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH says that the Baghdad national charter is a creative revolutionary achievement capable of overcoming the state of dismemberment and collapse involving the current Arab situation. The paper says that the charter is a new, active step forward and a push for the efforts for uniting the Iraqi and Syrian masses.

AL-JUMHURIYAH adds: Coordination, cooperation and integration within the framework of political, military, economic, informational, and cultural unionist ambitions between the two countries will provide Arab nationalism with an additional strength much more than if this strength were to remain disunified.

AL-JUMHURIYAH continues: The signing of the charter has facilitated the task of the forthcoming Arab summit conference in Baghdad. The charter is a living example of the strength of the ties linking the one nation and its capability for eliminating all differences when the situation becomes serious and requires unity to defend Palestine and every inch of the usurped Arab lands.

EDUCATION MINISTER RETURNS FROM UNESCO MEETINGS

JN310938Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0625 GMT 31 Oct 78 JN

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 31 October--Muhammad Mahjub, Revolution Command Council member and education minister, returned here this morning after heading the Iraqi delegation to the meetings of the 20th session of the UNESCO General Conference currently being held in Paris.

Mahbub delivered a speech during the meetings in which he stressed the Iraqi positions on the basic issues on the conference's agenda, particularly the question of Jerusalem and the implementation of the resolution on this subject adopted by the previous UNESCO General Conference.

AD-DUSTUR: EGYPT WILL REMAIN 'BASIC MEMBER OF ARAB GROUP'

JN300908Y Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 30 Oct 78 pp 1, 15 JN

[Editorial: "The Baghdad Summit"]

[Excerpts] The Arab foreign ministers meeting will begin in Baghdad today to prepare for the Arab summit conference to be held on 2 November.

We do not know exactly how the summit conference can emerge with a unanimous Arab working plan for this delicate stage without some of the parties sacrificing their previous declared positions in order to meet others half way. This is required if the Baghdad summit conference is to succeed in the manner desired by the Arab people.

While it is true that the Arab countries have divergent positions on President as-Sadat's policy, varying between overt opposition, rejection with reservations, or support for this policy; and while it is also true that these Arab countries have known and understandable allegiances to and connections with this or that international camp, it is hoped that the Arab summit conference will not legalize this divergence and have it emerge in such a manner that will make it more difficult for the Arabs to come together under one banner. Wisdom dictates that these international connections should be employed to serve the Arab scheme to be agreed upon, within a flexible and intelligent framework which will polarize the support of all the countries and use it in the service of the higher Arab interests.

If Egypt is going to be absent from the conference, it will undoubtedly be a subject for argument and thus will be more than present at the conference.

The conferees must show great alertness, caution and patience when dealing with the "Egyptian knot." They must not let it destroy the last available opportunity to achieve Arab solidarity. We realize and understand that Egypt's current policy is, in a general manner, going to be denounced, regretted or condemned. However, we must realize that Egypt is not Anwar as-Sadat, and that As-Sadat as all the others who preceded him or those who will come after him are just a transient "phenomenon" in Egypt's history. Therefore, when discussing the Egyptian issue, the conferees must differentiate between the "stable" and "changeable" in the history of a country which was and will continue to remain a basic member of the Arab group and struggle.

Therefore, the Baghdad summit must avoid dealing with the "phenomenon" as if it is an eternal thing. The conferees must not deal with Egypt as if As-Sadat and his policy are of the same immortality as the pyramids or the Nile valley. History has proved that the preservation of Arab relations with the Egyptian people is the only way to produce the required transformation and have Egypt return to Arab ranks despite everything.

PRESS COMMENTS ON ARAB FOREIGN MINISTERS CONFERENCE

JN310735Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 31 Oct 78 JN

[Press review]

[Text] Commenting on the Arab foreign ministers conference in Baghdad, AR-RA'Y writes: The Arab foreign ministers now meeting in Baghdad must coordinate among four working papers.

The papers have been submitted by Jordan, Syria, Iraq and the PLO to provide the proper provisions and articles for listing on the agenda of the Arab summit conference scheduled to be held in Baghdad the day after tomorrow.

It goes without saying that the Arab foreign ministers will take into consideration the Arab leaders' desire for the unity of the Arab ranks and the achievement of the minimum understanding which will insure the unity of these ranks and their cohesion vis-a-vis the current challenges.

It seems from the second reading of the working documents presented by the other delegations to the Arab foreign ministers conference that the current conference and the summit conference are of extreme importance because of the serious situation facing the frontline countries--Jordan and Syria--and the frontline people--the Palestinian people--as well as the Iraqi Republic, which insists on being in the forefront of these two frontlines out of its commitment to the Arab cause and the pan-Arab responsibilities dictated by current circumstances.

AR-RA'Y concludes: Hence, the Arab foreign ministers are requested to formulate a timetable for fruitful action to face the current challenges.

AL-AKHBAR writes: The serious circumstances surrounding our Arab cause today dictate that the Arabs should surpass the customary limit and adopt crucial decisions to rise to the level of the pan-Arab responsibilities dictated by these serious circumstances.

The paper adds: The forthcoming summit conference in Baghdad is the first of its kind in contemporary Arab history. The pan-Arab responsibility of this conference is also peerless. This conference should approve a framework for joint Arab action and the minimum cooperation necessary to confront the current situation.

The conference should approve, from the practical point of view, a common denominator to be shouldered by everyone and to remedy all aspects of the Arab-Israeli conflict. The conference should adopt crucial results capable of facing the crucial stage through which the Arab cause is passing and which puts this cause at a serious crossroad.

SARKIS DISCUSSES BAGHDAD STRATEGY WITH AL-HUSS

NC301725Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 30 Oct 78 NC

[Text] At 1700, President Sarkis met with Prime Minister Salim al-Huss. The meeting lasted until 1815. After the meeting, Prime Minister al-Huss made the following statement:

In this meeting with His Excellency President Sarkis, the discussions centered on the subjects which Lebanon is interested in presenting to the Arab summit conference in Baghdad. This comes on the eve of my departure for the Iraqi capital in order to participate in the Arab foreign ministers' conference and in the summit conference later. The discussions with his excellency also dealt with the outcome of the discussions held this morning in parliament between the parliamentary committees for national defense, administration and justice. I also discussed with his excellency the president the measures which have been taken and those which the authorities intend to take in order to put the cabinet decision into effect.

AL-HUSS COMMENTS ON VISIT TO SYRIA, IRAQ

NC310946Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 31 Oct 78 NC

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss left Beirut for Damascus this morning for a visit of several hours during which he will meet with President Hafiz al-Asad and senior Syrian officials before leaving for Baghdad in the evening. In Baghdad he will attend the Arab foreign ministers conference and the Arab summit conference which will open on 2 November.

The national news agency asked Prime Minister al-Huss the following questions before he left Beirut:

Question: What is the nature of your visit to Damascus today?

Answer: I am visiting Damascus today to hold discussions with His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad on the general situation in Lebanon in the light of the Bayt ad-Din conference resolutions and the executive program approved by the government for the implementation of the resolutions. We look forward to anything that will lead to consolidating security and achieving stability in the country.

Question: You will be going to Baghdad in the evening. At the foreign ministers conference you asked for assistance in overcoming the negative effects of Camp David on Lebanon, in solving the southern Lebanon crisis and in implementing the resolutions of the Riyadh and Cairo summit conferences. How do you view this assistance in practical terms?

Answer: The framework of the summit conference in Baghdad is the Middle East crisis and the results of the Camp David talks and its accords on the general Arab situation. Naturally, the fact that the Lebanese crisis is linked to the Middle East issue in more than one aspect has prompted us to submit some of these aspects to the Baghdad conference. The question of the south, particularly the status of the border zone, where, with the help of some local groups, Israel has been able to establish its control and to prevent the government from establishing its legitimate authority, will be among the subjects we will be presenting to the conference. Naturally, we shall be asking for Arab support to compel Israel to implement UN Security Council Resolutions 425 and 426. Moreover, the implementation of the resolutions of the Riyadh and Cairo conferences remains an Arab responsibility and we hope to get effective support for their implementation.

Question: You will be going to Baghdad. Will the implementation of the executive program be frozen until you return to Lebanon?

Answer: Before leaving, we took a number of measures that will enable us to follow up the implementation of the executive program from there. It is worth noting here that part of this program is being implemented and that the necessary plans for the implementation of the other part are being drawn up by competent departments. Our departure will not prevent us from taking appropriate measures at the appropriate time because we are determined about implementation. The government has declared a clear and frank stand which we consider a basis for solving the Lebanese crisis.

Departs for Damascus

NC310623Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 31 Oct 78 NC

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss left for Damascus a short while ago to meet with President Hafiz al-Asad and senior Syrian officials before leaving for Baghdad tonight to participate in the meetings of the Arab foreign ministers and the forthcoming Arab summit conference.

SAUDI AMBASSADOR SAYS MILITIAS WILL SURRENDER ARMS

LD301408Y Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 30 Oct 78 LD

[Excerpts] Saudi Ambassador to Lebanon Shaykh 'Ali ash-Sha'ir stated that the solution to the Lebanese crisis must stem from within the Lebanese will to solve various aspects of the problem.

In a statement to Lebanon's MONDAY MORNING magazine, the ambassador called on all Lebanese to give all necessary assistance to the Arab Deterrent Forces. Ambassador ash-Sha'ir declared that the militia forces of the conservative elements in Lebanon have agreed to surrender their arms provided all agreements concluded between Lebanon and the Palestinians are implemented. He added that the Palestinians continue to adhere to the resolutions of the Riyadh and Cairo summit conferences.

GOVERNMENT SOURCE ASSESSES IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS

NC301223Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 30 Oct 78 NC

[Text] A government source evaluated the first stage of the implementation of the decisions which the cabinet adopted at its recent session, saying: As you know, instructions were issued immediately after the cabinet decided to eliminate armed manifestations. Actually, those instructions have been almost completely implemented in some areas. We are continuing our efforts to implement the measures in all areas.

The government source added: We asked all concerned quarters--the deterrent forces command, army command and Internal Security Forces command--each within the scope of the responsibility assigned to it in its area of operation, to submit a timetable within 2 weeks. The commands actually started preparing their timetables last Saturday.

Asked about the question of private information [unofficial radios] and its fate, the government source said: Preparations are underway to adopt the various measures required. Contacts are continuing to achieve the desired goal.

ADF REPORTS ON 30 OCTOBER SECURITY SITUATION

NC302057Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 30 Oct 78 NC

[30 October statement by responsible source of Arab Deterrent Forces Command--read by announcer]

[Text] It has been stated in some local news reports that an exchange operation will take place in Sinn al-Fil and Jisr al-Basha and that a Saudi battalion is on its way to take over those places from the Syrian forces of the Arab Deterrent Forces stationed there since the ADF entered Lebanon.

The ADF command announces that its responsible departments are preparing the necessary plan in accordance with the cabinet decision and the Bayt ad-Din conference resolutions, and the command hopes to submit the plans to the cabinet next week after having coordinated the plans with the other military services entrusted with preparing similar plans.

That means that the ADF command is not planning an exchange operation at present, neither in Sinn al-Fil nor anywhere else. There will also be no new Saudi battalion. The Saudi Arabian Kingdom will maintain its present battalion because the fraternal Republic of Sudan agreed to renew the mandate of its forces in the ADF for another period.

That belief may have been the cause for some to continue sniping at ADF positions in Jisr Sinn al-Fil, Jisr al-Basha, and Al-Mukallis traffic circle since the last exchange of forces took place. That exchange of forces operation was the last stage of the previously prepared security plan. Anything else will be detailed in the new plans which the cabinet will approve in accordance with its recent decisions.

On the security level, ADF positions on Jisr Sinn al-Fil, Jisr al-Basha, Al-Mukallis traffic circle, At-Tayyunah, and Chevrolet came under intermittent sniping today. That led to the closure of roads and led, in the At-Tayyunah area, to limited clashes in which some medium weapons were used.

As to the appearance of armed people, tangible improvement has been noticed in their disappearance in the Al-Ashrafiyah and Jisr Bayrut areas. However, barricades still exist and armed men can still be seen from time to time building some barricades and deploying on the frontlines.

In the areas of Sinn al-Fil, Ad-Dikwanah, 'Ayn ar-Rummanah, Tahwitat Furn ash-Shubbak armed men fill the streets and many military vehicles can be seen. Fortifications are being built using sandbags and reinforced concrete on all intersections and roads.

The ADF have arrested 18 people in Jisr Bayrut, carrying weapons and wearing camouflage uniforms. They were referred to the ADF command, which in turn referred them to responsible authorities. In the western quarter of Beirut, the ADF arrested 26 people who violated instructions regarding appearance on the streets with military uniforms and weapons. They were also referred to responsible authorities.

VOL: SYRIANS CONTINUE SHELLING, SNIPER FIRE

NC310708Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 0615 GMT 31 Oct 78 NC

[Text] Despite the wave of cold weather sweeping Lebanon, some of the suburbs of the capital had a very disturbed night last night. The heavy rainfall was accompanied by a downpour of Syrian tank shells and sniper fire on the areas of Sinn al-Fil, Ad-Dikwanah, 'Ayn ar-Rummanah and Ash-Shiyah.

The Syrian tanks deployed in Dahr al-Jamal did not stop their shelling, but the noise of the shelling mingled with that of thunder.

Security reports indicate that the Sinn al-Fil area, particularly Al-Ghazal, Mar Ilyas and As-Sayyidah roads were the scenes of shelling and sniper fire last night because Syrian tanks continued their shelling of those roads and Syrian snipers continued to pursue their well-known hobby. That resulted in the deaths of two citizens and in making the roads unsafe from the Salome traffic circle, past Al-Hayik traffic circle and up to Al-Wati bridge.

The confrontation and exposed roads facing the Syrian positions in At-Tahwitah and Furn ash-Shubbak continue to be dangerous.

DSHK, RPG and 50-caliber shells hit 'Ayn ar-Rummanah, Ash-Shiyah, Mar Marun, Az-Za'tar and Sinnin.

There was sporadic gunfire in Ad-Dikwanah during the night, while the areas of Burj Hammad, Ad-Duwwar and Bikfayya were calm.

FOREIGN MINISTER KHADDAM: AS-SADAT SHOULD FALL

JN302006Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 30 Oct 78 JN

[Text] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, said in Baghdad today that the Arab foreign ministers will discuss two very important issues: The first is the restoration of the balance between the Arabs and Israel after As-Sadat's slipping into the Israeli trench. The second is how to face that problem.

Mr Khaddam said that there had been a wall between the Arabs and Israel. As-Sadat broke the wall. What is required from the Arab nation is to close up the wall, because through that gap Israeli culture, economy and hegemony will continuously enter. Through that gap in the Egyptian wall Israel will be able to dominate all the Arab nation and the Arabs must close it up.

In a statement to the press in As-Salam Palace before this morning's meeting of the foreign ministers conference, Mr Khaddam said that it is the task of the conference to implement the resolutions of the Arab League. Khaddam said: In 1950, and in accordance with the suggestion submitted by the Egyptian Government at that time and in the presence of the Arab states' representatives and with their agreement, the Arab League took a decision to expel any member state from the Arab League if it dealt with Israel. Sanctions will be applied against such a member as the resolution indicates. Mr Khaddam added: What is required now is for the resolution to be implemented. It is unreasonable that after 28 years we should make resolutions that will replace some resolutions made at previous times. Therefore, we must proceed and implement the Arab League resolution.

The minister said: There cannot be an Arab League under the shadow of As-Sadat. Nobody can imagine an Arab League under the shadow of As-Sadat's regime.

Speaking about the absence of Mr Mahmud Riyad, Arab League secretary general, from the conference, Mr Khaddam said: The Arab League secretary general renounced his duties as a secretary. He should not absent himself from any conference even if it is held in the Hawaiian Islands. Mr Khaddam said: The conference is being attended by 21 Arab heads of state. The excuse of the Arab League secretary general that the Arab League is neutral is unacceptable. We do not differ with Egypt on the delineation of borders or on the distribution of the Euphrates waters. We differ with the Egyptian Government on Palestine. We differ with it on Jerusalem.

Mr Khaddam said: If the Arab League secretary general chooses to be with Israel and with the Israeli line, he will be renouncing his tasks as an Arab League secretary general. We hope that brother Mahmud Riyad will be, as we always knew him, a good and excellent man. We have many questions on his absence from the conference.

Mr Khaddam said: What President Numayri said during his visit to Damascus is completely different from the remarks he made earlier. President Numayri's description of President as-Sadat in Damascus is completely different from the description he gave in the United States, Germany and other places.

Mr Khaddam said: The main subject at this conference is restoring a balance between the forces of steadfastness and confrontation, on the one hand, and the Zionist enemy, on the other. That balance was lost as a result of the Egyptian president's slipping at the Camp David conference. As I said, another subject is the application of Arab decisions against anyone who deals, cooperates or reconciles with Israel. I said before the conference that there is one topic, namely confronting the grave consequences of the Camp David conference and the Egyptian president's slipping into the Israeli line.

Mr Khaddam said: The Egyptian people are part of the Arab nation. They are now the captives of As-Sadat's regime. That government, which has placed itself in the hands of Begin and Carter, now restrains the Egyptian people. Thus we are all called upon to assist the Egyptian people in destroying their fetters so they can regain their natural place in confronting the enemies of the Arab nation.

Mr Khaddam said that the Egyptian regime is illegal. President as-Sadat has taken an oath on the constitution of the confederation of Arab republics and held a referendum among the Egyptian people on the constitution. In that constitution, there is a provision barring negotiations or reconciliation with Israel. As-Sadat has lost his legitimacy. He is now the enemy of the Arab nation and of the Egyptian people. Nobody can save As-Sadat because he is now at the bottom of the ladder and should fall.

Concluding his statement, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister said: As the host country, it is natural for Iraq to submit a working paper. We too, in our capacity as an essential party to the question, have submitted a working paper. We and our brethren in Iraq are in agreement on all ideas. There is total coordination between the Syrian and Iraqi delegations.

Meets With Foreign Ministers

JN302135Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 30 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad--Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam met today at As-Salam Palace--the headquarters of the convocation of the Arab foreign ministers conference--with Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, Bahraini Foreign Minister Muhammad ibn Mubarak al Khalifah and the Qatari finance and oil minister and chairman of the Qatari delegation to the conference, 'Abd al-'Aziz Ibn Khalifah al Thani. They discussed the topics listed in the agenda of the conference.

SOVIET FRIENDSHIP DELEGATION ARRIVES IN DAMASCUS

JN301419Y Damascus SANA in Arabic 1355 GMT 30 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Damascus, 30 October--A delegation of the Soviet-Syrian Friendship Society arrived in Damascus this afternoon on a weeklong visit to the Syrian Arab Republic. The delegation is headed by Comrade (Magalyev), secretary general of the Communist Party Central Committee in the Kirgiz SSR.

The delegation was received at Damascus international airport by comrade members of the Executive Bureau of the Syrian-Soviet Friendship Society and by staff of the Soviet Embassy in Damascus.

During their visit, the members of the delegation will become acquainted with the economic, social and cultural achievements in Syria that were reached under the leadership of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party.

The guest delegation will also visit the liberated city of Al-Qunaytirah as well as various provinces in the country. The delegation will visit construction and cultural centers in those provinces.

AL-ASAD BRIEFS LEADERS ON BAGHDAD TRIP

JN301931Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 30 Oct 78 JN

[Text] The Central Command of Progressives and Nationalist Front held a meeting this afternoon under President Hafiz al-Asad. The president briefed the command on his historic visit to Baghdad last week that resulted in the signing of the Charter for Joint National Action by fraternal Syria and Iraq.

After discussing the Charter for Joint National Action, the Central Command expressed its absolute support for that important achievement, which shows a high level of responsibility at this stage of the Arab struggle against the plot represented by the Camp David agreements and aimed at Arab existence. The Central Command expressed its great appreciation for the blessed efforts of President Hafiz al-Asad and his initiative that led to the achievement of the Charter for Joint National Action.

Sees Lebanese Prime Minister

JN311404Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 31 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Damascus--At 1215 today President Hafiz al-Asad received Lebanese Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss in the presence of Prime Minister Muhammad 'Ali al-Halabi.

During the meeting a discussion was held on the situation in Lebanon as well as on other issues of common interest. They also reviewed the subjects on the agenda of the Baghdad Arab summit conference.

Dr al-Huss had arrived in Damascus earlier today en route to Baghdad. In a statement on arrival, Dr al-Huss praised the Syrian role in Lebanon. He said that Syria is playing a special role in this phase and this role is based on Syria's pan-Arab principles regarding restoring security and peace to Lebanon.

Dr al-Huss will leave for Baghdad later today to take part in the Arab foreign ministers conference currently being held in the Iraqi capital.

AL-HALABI RECEIVES JORDANIAN PLANNING OFFICIAL

JN310724Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 31 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Prime Minister Muhammad 'Ali al-Halabi received Hanna 'Awdah, president of the Jordanian National Planning Council, yesterday evening. The discussion dealt with all the measures required for constant coordination in the spheres of development, planning and implementation of joint Jordanian-Syrian projects.

ALGERIA

BOUTEFLIKA JOINS DELEGATION TO BAGHDAD SUMMIT

LD301346Y Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 30 Oct 78 LD

[Text] The Arab foreign ministers conference opened in Baghdad this morning to prepare for the summit conference due to be held in Baghdad next Thursday. A total of 21 Arab countries is attending. Of course, the Egyptian regime is not attending.

The delegations to the Baghdad conference include an Algerian delegation led by Abdelaziz Bouteflika, member of the Council of the Revolution and foreign minister, who is due to join the Algerian delegation today. The delegation arrived in the Iraqi capital yesterday evening after a stopover in Benghazi in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

Brother Bouteflika left Moscow today to attend the Baghdad conference. He led the Algerian delegation to the UN General Assembly's 33d session, after which he went to Moscow for consultations prior to the Baghdad conference with president Houari Boumediene, who agreed at the end of his working and friendship visit to the USSR to extend his stay at the invitation of Soviet leaders.

LIBYA

ARAB PEOPLE'S COURT HEARS CASE AGAINST AS-SADAT

LD292225Y Tripoli JANA in English 1825 GMT 29 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli, 29 October, JANA--The Arab People's Court reconvened today at the Peoples Court in Tripoli to consider the charges against the defeatist president of Egypt, of signing the "Stable David" accords.

The court heard the prosecution witnesses. The author 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Khamisi, one of the Egyptian Arab militants gave his testimony before the court and explained the treasonous role played by the defeatist president of Egypt since he knew him at the time of the Second World War.

The witnesses revealed the collaboration of the defeatist president with the Nazi and American intelligence. The witness said that the defeatist president of Egypt was assigned by King Faruq's guards to murder members of the progressive forces before the 23rd July revolution. The witness explained the impact of the treasonous accords on the intellectual and cultural life in Egypt.

The court then heard the testimony of the secretary-general of International Federation of Arab Trade Unions, who expressed the dissatisfaction of the workers in the Arab world because of the capitulationist policy adopted by the accused, which led to the signing of the "Stable David" accords.

The court is still being held to hear the testimony of the other witnesses. The general secretary of Arab Peasants Federation gave his testimony before the court and explained the effect of the capitulationist policy on the Egyptian peasants. He re-affirmed the Arab peasants rejection of the "Stable David" accords.

The court then heard the testimony of the PLO representative who explained the impact of the treasonous policy adopted by the defeatist president of Egypt, the effects of which appeared in the Lebanese events the price of which was paid by the PLO, 47 thousand martyrs and more than 120 thousand were injured.

He said that the signing of "Stable David" accords was a crime against the sovereignty of Arab countries over their territories which was a breach of all international laws and constitution.

The presiding judge then adjourned the hearing to be resumed this evening at seven o'clock to continue hearing the testimony of the prosecution witnesses.

On the other hand the Arab people's court received many cables strongly denouncing the defeatist president of Egypt's signing of the accords of "Stable David" and referred to all the measures that should be taken against him.

These cables were received from Jordan's Trade Unions Federation, Bahrain Trade Union, the General Secretariat of the Arab Trade Union of Woodworks and Building, Arab Federation of Banking and Insurance Employees and Arab Transport Workers Union.

The Arab People's Court hailed the Arab workers' strike which took place yesterday through which they denounced the "Stable David" accords.

Case Continues in Tripoli

LD302016Y Tripoli JANA in English 1730 GMT 30 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli, 30 October, JANA--The well known Egyptian writer 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Khamisi, affirmed in his testimony before the Arab People's Court which was held yesterday in its location in Tripoli, that the defendent Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat had been an agent for the Nazi intelligence service and had been arrested for spying while on board a boat equipped with broadcasting instruments. The boat belonged to a woman called Hikmat Fahmi. This led to his dismissal from the Egyptian Army after which he worked as truckdriver between Cairo and Suez.

In his testimony Mr Kahamisi added "We were astonished, at the time, to hear that he was readmitted in the army because, usually, anybody sacked (?from) the army can never restore his position but the truth was revealed when we learned, from sources among the staff of King Farouq's court, that a woman called Nahed Rachada and her husband, who used to work in the palace, had restored him and assigned him to the court's intelligence service.

Answering a query by the court concerning the role of the defendant in the revolution of the 23 July 1952 [coup] Mr Khamisi explained that at the night of the revolution the defendant preferred to go to the movies instead of taking a positive role so that should the revolution fail he would be out of it. The writer Khamisi explained, quoting several reports published by the Western press, that As-Sadat was a CIA agent and used to receive a salary handed over to him by a person called Adham.

The Arab People's Court is holding its sessions since last Saturday. In the third day the court listened to the bill of indictment against the Egyptian president for signing the "Camp David" accords with terrorist Menahem Begin with the participation of American President Jimmy Carter--the enemies of the Arab nation. In yesterday's session the court listened to the prosecution witnesses. Among them were the secretary general of the International Confederation of Arab Farmers, representative of the Egyptian nationalist movement, member of the Executive Bureau of the Arab Student Union and the secretary-general of the Union of Arab Youth. They affirmed in their testimonies that the Egyptian president (?had admitted) all criminal charges against him, which were committed against the Arab nation and its causes of destiny.

The Arab People's Court will resume it's session today at the people's place in Tripoli.

JANA REPORTS FURTHER ON LIBYAN PEOPLE'S CONGRESSES

LD302000Y Tripoli JANA in English 1658 GMT 30 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli, 30 October, JANA--The masses of the people's basic congresses continued for the 9th consecutive day the discussion of the "agenda of it's third regular session for 1978".

The masses of the people's congresses discussed all the items included on their agenda through direct democracy introducing to the peoples of the world the method practised by the people's congresses as a final decisive solution for the problem of the ruling system designed to help humanity and end the eras of (?unjustness), exploitation, and dictatorship.

The masses of the people's basic congresses discussed the 9th item on their agenda in respect with the establishment of the armed people, while deeply conscious of the historic responsibility and great duties shouldered by the Jamahiriyah's people during this era.

JANA's correspondent described the discussion of this item by the masses as stemming from the belief that the establishment of the armed people comes as an inevitable result of our people's masses vanguard role in the struggle against reactionism colonialism and Zionism, especially after the Jamahiriyah became a symbol of the state of unity and a fortress for Arab nationalism, which defends Arab honour and dignity. While discussing the people's wealth and achievements the masses of the people's congresses affirmed their action for realising the human goals at which the great 1st September revolution aims.

While looking into the item related to establishing the armed people they concentrated on the lessons learned from the struggle of father and fore-fathers, when every village and town was engaged in long years of fighting against the colonial Italian armies until victory was achieved despite the difference in number and equipment.

The masses of the people's congresses affirmed the necessity to speed up the establishment of the armed people, to arm the towns, train women to use arms and introduce the military training as part of the educational curricula for students.

MAURITANIA

PRESIDENT SALECK POSTPONES VISIT TO PARIS

LD301458Y Rabat MAP in English 1214 GMT 30 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Nouakchott, 20 Oct (MAP)--Mauritanian President Moustapha Ould Saleck indicated here Saturday that he will postpone an official visit in France until after the Baghdad summit, according to reliable sources Monday. The Mauritanian leader was previously expected in Paris on November 3. However, President Ould Saleck added that his trip might be rescheduled between November 5 and 10.

MOROCCO

KING HASSAN ADDRESSES PLANNING COUNCIL SESSION

LD301618Y Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 30 Oct 78 LD

[Excerpts] The ordinary session of the Supreme Council for Planning and National Development began today. It will be devoted to a study of the 3-year plan project. His Majesty King Hassan II this morning presided over the opening meeting of the session at the Royal Palace.

His majesty the king made a guiding speech in which he analyzed the economic and social conditions in the country, projecting the responsibility that all must shoulder to insure the realization of economic development and social justice. His majesty pointed out the means that can lead to this development, reminding us of the natural resources of our country on and under the surface of the land. Following is his majesty's speech.

[Begin King Hassan recording] Thanks be to God and the blessing and peace of God be upon the Messenger of God and his family and companions. Gentlemen:

The constitution makes it incumbent on us to chair the opening of the work of the Supreme Council for Planning and National Development. I have always insured that this is my duty in light of the fact that I attach tremendous importance to planning and national development, first as part of government procedure and second as a means of spotlighting some thoughts and methods and programs concerning development and reconstruction.

The first thing a plan must do is be aware of and fully attentive to the social makeup of the country, the framework of the country, its weaknesses and strengths. Second, it must be accurate in appraising and right in calculating and thinking, capable of combining reality, what can be expected and what is desired. Finally, the plan must not be demagogic or contain promises that cannot be achieved and should be in daily comformity with the abilities of the country and the means of its work and progress.

In our speech delivered on 4 June, we pointed out that our plan will be a 3-year plan. At the time I explained the reasons and motives which made me and my government adopt this decision. There is no harm in repeating, even briefly, these reasons so that we may stay within the framework we decided and which you will decide also through your observations and the amendments that you will introduce to the plan as a matter of duty on your part because you are elected and initially because you are aware of the geographic map which I mentioned and aware of the body of the nation and aware of its points of weakness and strength. [end recording]

Sees Libyan Envoy

LD310006Y Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 30 Oct 78 LD

[Text] This evening, his majesty the king received in audience at the Royal Palace in Rabat Mr Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi, industry secretary of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and envoy of Libyan leader Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. The envoy had talks with his majesty lasting 1 and 1/4 hours. After the meeting, the Libyan minister told our correspondent:

[Begin Al-Talhi recording] I have had the honor of having an audience with his majesty today. As the envoy of Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September revolution, I conveyed to his majesty the colonel's viewpoints regarding our Arab Maghreb region and also the Arab region in general. I also heard from his majesty his views on these issues. At this time when our region [words indistinct] I am very happy with this meeting. As I said this morning, I am happy to be in this Arab and ancient Arab country. [end recording]

Present at the meeting were his majesty's adviser Ahmed Reda Guedira; Abderrahmane Baddou, secretary of state for foreign affairs; the Libyan ambassador to Morocco; and the Moroccan ambassador to Libya.

SUDAN

ERITREAN OFFICIAL ARRIVES IN KHARTOUM, MAKES STATEMENT

JN271130Y Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1045 GMT 27 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Khartoum, 27 October--In a statement to Suna Osman Saleh Sabbe, chairman of the Eritrean Liberation Front-Popular Liberation Forces Central Council, said that his visit to Khartoum comes at the Sudanese Government's invitation, addressed to all factions of the Eritrean revolution. The Sudanese invitation falls within the framework of efforts aimed at uniting the ranks of the Eritrean revolution. It is recalled that similar efforts in the past year have failed to achieve this goal.

Sabbe emphasized that the Eritrean revolution is fighting to achieve a political goal. This task will not be achieved unless the Eritrean revolution is strong and united. Then it can negotiate with the enemy to achieve positive results. The revolution, Sabbe added, will not accept anything less than the complete independence of Eritrea, but we realize that the Ethiopians have interests in Eritrean ports. All these problems could be solved within the framework of Eritrean independence.

Touching on the military situation, Sabbe asserted that the Eritrean revolution is still strong despite the fact that Ethiopia benefited from the fall season as well as from various stands of Eritrean revolution factions. Sabbe explained that there is no military coordination between the three factions of the revolution. Furthermore, Ethiopia is using Soviet weapons and mobil bridges. He added that 17,000-20,000 Cuban soldiers and another 200 PDRY soldiers are now in Ethiopia. That is in addition to foreign experts from the Soviet Union and the GDR. Sabbe urged the superpowers to understand the Eritreans' position, being asked to understand Ethiopian interests in Eritrea.

Sabbe praised the efforts of the Arab countries and their supporting the Eritreans with weapons, money and other aid. He said that the internal situation of the Eritrean revolution will not influence Arab aid because Arab countries support different factions of the revolution. However, Sabbe noted that Arab aid to Eritrea is limited in comparison to the support that Ethiopia receives. Sabbe explained that Arab aid to the Eritrean revolution has amounted to $20 million, yet Ethiopia has received some $20 billion [as received] in military support from the Soviet Union. Sabbe added that the socialist bloc countries are also supporting Ethiopia, but the Western world does not offer any help to the Eritrean revolution. On the contrary, the Western world colludes with the Soviet Union in an attempt to isolate the Eritrean revolution.

Finally, Sabbe expressed his gratitude for the unlimited Sudanese support for the Eritrean revolution. He said that the Eritrean people are getting everything from Sudan, from aspirin to corn. He added that Sudan has welcomed more than 300,000 Eritreans.

AFRICAN LEADERS TO HOLD KHARTOUM MEETING ON W. SAHARA

LD302040Y Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 30 Oct 78 LD/EA

[Excerpt] The African heads of state forming the African Arbitration Committee for the Solution of the Western Sahara Problem will meet in Khartoum from 20 to 30 November under the chairmanship of President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, the current OAU chairman. The heads of state are Nyerere, president of Tanzania; Moussa Traore, president of Mali; Olusegun Obasanjo, head of the state of Nigeria; and Felix Houphouet-Boigny, president of Ivory Coast.

CABINET CREATES COMMITTEES TO ADVISE NEGOTIATING TEAM

TA301323Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 30 Oct 78 TA

[Text] The cabinet has set up two ministerial committees for the negotiations with Egypt, one for economic matters and the other for oil issues. The decision to set up the committees was taken in the cabinet in an extraordinary meeting dedicated to a discussion on the negotiations on signing a peace treaty with Egypt. The meeting was held in the framework of the Ministerial Committee for Security Affairs.

The Committee for Economic Affairs is headed by the finance minister. Its members are the energy minister, the housing and construction minister, the agriculture minister, the health minister, the justice minister and the interior minister. The government legal adviser will also take part in the meetings. The Committee for Oil Issues will be headed by the energy minister and its members are the justice minister and Minister Hayyim Landau.

Answering questions, Cabinet Secretary Arye Na'or, said that the two committees appointed today are supposed to finish their work within a few days. Their guidelines will be transmitted to the negotiations team in Washington. Na'or said that to the best of his knowledge the talks are proceeding as usual and there is no crisis. Our correspondent says that a tougher position has been noted in the Egyptian proposal on the issue of linkage between the peace treaty and the future of Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip.

DETAILS OF BEGIN LETTER TO CARTER ON SETTLEMENTS

TA301306Y Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 30 Oct 78 p 1 TA

[By Dalya Shehori]

[Text] Yesterday the cabinet authorized the contents of the prime minister's reply to President Carter's letter on the matter of the fleshing-out of the settlements in Judaea and Samaria. The text of the letter was described by informed sources as "clear, fair and firm" and as expressing "a resolute position."

However, the letter says that the reference is to "an addition of hundreds of families to the existing settlements in Judaea and Samaria."

It is pointed out that, at the meeting yesterday between political correspondents and Cabinet Secretary Arye Na'or, Na'or gave the translation into English of the sentence quoted above, commenting that the letter was written in English and not in Hebrew. In view of observers, the cabinet secretary's quoting of the sentence about the "addition of hundreds of families" (which also appears in the cabinet's announcement in Hebrew)--and not of other sentences, aggressive or sharp, which are in the letter--indicates an Israeli desire to appease the United States and Egypt on the fleshing-out decision. Na'or pointed out, by the way, that the cabinet does not use the term "fleshing-out" but refers to the "addition" of families.

Despite the fact that the cabinet has not agreed on the dimensions of the fleshing-out of the settlements, the cabinet's announcement is marked by the interpretation that the reference is to an addition of "hundreds" of families--a point which may be understood as being distinct from an addition of thousands, or more, families. From this it is possible to draw the conclusion that the reference is to a fleshing-out of moderate proportions--in the spirit of President Carter's latest statements or slightly larger dimensions.

However, the letter contains no formulations which would indicate that Israel accepts President Carter's latest statements. On the contrary; included in the letter is a note of nonagreement with Carter's remarks about the possibility of agreeing with fleshing-out on condition that the reference be to an addition of settlers in the framework of the unification of families. In the letter the prime minister points out that the members of the Israeli delegation to Camp David never used this phrase. The term "unification of families" as used by President Carter--which is used by Israel in referring to the Jews in the Soviet Union or the unification of Arab families living under Israeli control and those in the Arab countries--aroused anger and ire in Jerusalem because of the hint it contains that Judaea and Samaria are outside the borders of Israel.

In the letter of reply the prime minister further points out that when he explained to President Carter, at Camp David, that Israel would not be able under any circumstances to concede on the issue of the fleshing-out of the settlements in Judaea and Samaria (during the 3-month period in which Israel agreed not to establish new settlements), President Carter did not oppose this and even accepted that there was no argument about fleshing them out. To underline his remarks, the prime minister includes in his letter the quotations touching on this matter from the Israeli minutes of the Camp David talks, pointing out the date and the time of the talks. The letter says, correctly, that the U.S. President is now trying to say different things from those he agreed to at Camp David.

The prime minister also rejects the claim that the fleshing-out of the settlements in Judaea and Samaria will disturb the peace process or represent an obstacle to it. Begin confirms that it is Israel's right to settle in Judaea and Samaria.

At the opening of the cabinet session the ministers congratulated the prime minister on having received the Nobel Peace Prize.

EGYPTIANS INSIST ON LIMITING PEACE AGREEMENT IN TIME

TA301534Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 30 Oct 78 TA

[Text] Egypt has apparently not yet withdrawn from its demand for a time limitation in the peace treaty with Israel, our correspondent Zevi Lidar has learned. The Egyptians ask that the treaty be signed for a defined period, to facilitate a reexamination of its various clauses after a number of years and, perhaps, introduce changes to it.

DAYAN COMMENTS ON DEVELOPMENTS IN WASHINGTON TALKS

TA301751Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 30 Oct 78 TA

[From the Evening Newsreel]

[Text] The meetings between Cyrus Vance and the Israeli delegation ended a few minutes ago and at their conclusion our reporter Shalom Qital talked with Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan. [begin recording]

[Question] Mr Foreign Minister, how would you sum up the talks you had with Secretary of State Cyrus Vance?

[Answer] They were substantial and of topical interest, and considerable progress occurred in them. We have studied the changes that were proposed by Egypt regarding what is deemed to be acceptable by us, and the Egyptian reactions to the changes we proposed to bridge the gaps, and on these subjects considerable progress has taken place.

This does not mean that there is agreement on all the issues. On the contrary, there are certain issues on which every party is maintaining its position. Nevertheless, the sum total is that there is progress.

[Question] I understand that in the afternoon the Americans will meet with the Egyptians. Why aren't tripartite meetings of all the parties being held?

[Answer] I do not know. I think that now it depends on the willingness of the Egyptians. Should they desire and be ready for a joint meeting, a joint meeting will take place. If they are not ready for this, then we shall continue in the negotiations on the same issues, however not face-to-face but with American mediation. Thejoint meetings are important, not only symbolically but also substantively. This does not mean, however, that if there are no tripartite meetings, no progress has taken place. Through U.S. mediation in those issues that we do not discuss tripartially, we are discussing them bipartially. First they hold discussions with the Egyptians and then with us.

[Question] I understand that the Egyptians are ready to meet with us, and a proof of this is that last night you and 'Ezer Weizman met with the Egyptian ministers. What can you tell us about that meeting?

[Answer] First of all, it was held on their initiative, and it was a clarifying meeting. They wanted this, and we were very happy about it. The purpose was to discuss how each party sees the developments in the future, to prevent, as best we can, not only crises but mainly misunderstandings. So this was the content of the meeting. To wipe the table, to explain things to the opposite party, to answer questions, what the parties have in mind regarding the various issues, such as Jerusalem, Judaea and Samaria, the relations between us and the Egyptians, between them and the Arab states, and the reciprocal ramifications of the various issues.

[Question] Would you say that we are approaching an agreement in a matter of days?

[Answer] I wouldn't want to determine a date or a period of time for this. I can say that there was progress, but to say how long the negotiations will continue, this I cannot. Thank you.

[Question] Thank you. [end recording]

TV Interview

TA302007Y Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 30 Oct 78 TA

[Text] Now a meeting is supposed to be taking place in Washington between the Egyptian and the U.S. delegation, following a similar meeting between the Israelis and the Americans which ended about 2 hours ago. No date has yet been set for a tripartite U.S.-Israeli-Egyptian meeting. Here is a report from Washington by Dan Shilon. [begin videotape]

[Shilon] When the Israeli delegation came to the State Department today, the impression was that the most important issue that is hindering the successful completion of the negotiations with Egypt is not necessarily Israel or Egypt, but rather, the U.S. administration. Last night, at the hotel in Washington, the Israelis and the Egyptians held meetings later described as rather encouraging. However, today at the State Department, it once again seemed that the Americans are demonstrating a more intransigent position than the Egyptian position on the linkage between the agreement with Egypt and the continuation of the negotiations about the future of Judaea and Samaria. But despite all this, Foreign Minister Dayan was prepared to point to a certain degree of progress at at the end of the meetings.

[Dayan] What is now going on in the negotiations concerns the amendments the various governments suggested to the proposals agreed upon between ourselves and the Egyptian delegation, with the consent of the United States. However, the conclusions made here were, of course, dependent on the cabinets' approval. As was expected, the two cabinets proposed amendments and changes, and now we are discussing the Israeli position on the changes and amendments proposed by the Egyptians and the Egyptian position on our changes and amendments. In other words, this is a vicious circle and this may never end, but still, technically speaking, this will end and in my opinion a marked success was achieved during today's talks.

[Question] Do you feel that the current U.S. compromise proposals are closer to our positions?

[Answer] I repeat: I am not talking about the U.S. proposals for compromises. We are talking about proposals for amendments made by the Egyptians which are accepted or rejected by Israel and vice versa, and the United States is not making its own proposals. It is trying to help to reach an understanding, but there are no original U.S. proposals.

[Question] What is the role the United States is now playing, in light of yesterday's publications about an end to the talks or a freeze?

[Answer] I can only say this--that during the meetings the United States is certainly playing a constructive role. As to the atmosphere and what the United States is saying in the Arab world or what it is saying to the Egyptian delegation which does not have to do with the text and the proposed amendments I cannot say, I really cannot say.

[Question] Is the question of the fleshing-out still hovering like a cloud over the discussions here?

[Answer] This has not been mentioned in any way in the talks between us and the United States, certainly not directly.

[Question] How were the talks with the Egyptians conducted yesterday at the hotel?

[Answer] It was a very straightforward talk and I attribute great importance to this, because to avoid misunderstandings it is necessary for each party to know the other's position, and either agree with it or not, but there must be what we call a clear table. If the talks continue at a proper pace and with an open heart and, concerning those articles where there are differences of opinion, the parties are prepared to come closer to each other--that is, in simple Hebrew: to concede, to compromise and give up the original stance--then it would be possible to reach an agreement. On the other hand, if both parties are stubborn and say: If the other party does not accept precisely what we want, then there will not be a peace agreement--then it is possible not to reach a peace agreement on the grounds of only one clause. [end videotape]

WASHINGTON DELAYS PENTAGON DELEGATION VISIT TO ISRAEL

TA310702Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 31 Oct 78 TA

[From the Morning Newsreel]

[Text] Is this also a signal from Washington? The visit by the U.S. assistant secretary of defense, David McGifford, who was to have come to Israel tomorrow, was unexpectedly postponed without explanation. McGifford and the members of his team were to have examined budgetary questions in Israel and procurement matters stemming from the peace agreement. Our military correspondent, Roni Dani'el, reports on the postponed visit.

[Dani'el] A senior defense personality told me last night: There is no doubt that the cancellation of the visit by U.S. Assistant Secretary of Defense McGifford results from Israel's decision to flesh out the settlements in the wake of Saunders' visit to Israel. The announcement of the cancellation reached the Ministry of Defense yesterday at 1700 without any kind of explanation. The head of the Ministry of Defense Mission in the United States and the IDF attache there are already in Israel to accompany McGifford here. Final preparations for the visit were still being made yesterday in the Ministry of Defense, and suddenly there was the cancellation.

David McGifford and the members of his team were to have examined the security requirements in the wake of the peace agreement. They were to have determined a position, from personal impressions, involving the amount of financial aid Israel requires to establish its army in the Negev. Israel wants to introduce several changes into the Matmon 'C' program, the IDF's equipment program, and this issue was also to have been raised during McGifford's meetings in Israel.

The visit was very important from Israel's viewpoint and for this reason the Americans opted to postpone it. This is revenge for the Saunders affair, said a senior defense personality, but it will not help them.

Yesterday, at an election meeting, Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Zippori said: The United States is our friend, but we have a basic confrontation with it; the U.S. programs go too far, even beyond those of the Egyptians.

It now appears that the Americans intend to lower the rank of McGifford's delegation. He and his deputy will not come. On Sunday a delegation of technicians and engineers is scheduled to arrive in Israel. It will be busy locating sites for airfields here. It may be that several people from McGifford's entourage will come with them. For the moment, he and his deputy will not come.

BEGIN STATES FIRM PRINCIPLES BEFORE LEAVING FOR U.S.

TA302028Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 30 Oct 78 TA

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin stated at a rally in Haifa this evening that before leaving for the United States he wished to note a number of principles he insisted upon.

First of all, Jerusalem is one city that will never be divided.

Second principle: No Palestinian state will be established.

Third principle: The IDF will stand in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza, and will defend Israel.

And the fourth principle: The right of the Israeli people to settle everywhere in Eretz Yisra'el is unshakeable. This right was implemented in the past and it will also be carried out in the future.

The prime minister added that Judaea, Samaria and Gaza will not be handed over to any foreign sovereignty because we also have to guarantee true peace for our grandchildren.

Our correspondent remarks that in the course of the speech numerous interjections from members of the Greater Israel Movement could be heard.

ISRAEL CONSIDERS EGYPTIAN REQUEST FOR MISSILE LOCATION

TA302022Y Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 30 Oct 78 TA

[Text] Talks took place today in Israel about the Egyptians' demand to station surface-to-air missiles to defend the Egyptian division which will be stationed east of the Suez Canal. Our military correspondent 'Amiram Nir reports that this is the most problematic issue among the military articles in the military negotiations in Washington and that there is a tendency in Israel to bridge the gap in such a way as to make it possible for Egypt to accept it without presenting new dangers for the defense on the southern front.

HA'AREZ SCORES 'DECEIT' OF FLESHING-OUT OF SETTLEMENTS

TA301344Y Tel Aviv HA'AREZ in Hebrew 30 Oct 78 p 11 TA

['Uzzi Benziman commentary: "Misleading the Nation"]

[Text] It was Moshe Dayan himself who submitted to the cabinet the proposal to embark upon comprehensive fleshing-out operations in Judaea and Samaria. The same Moshe Dayan returned 1 month earlier from Camp David and coolly declared that policy was changing with the circumstances, and he therefore no longer held that Sharm ash-Shaykh was preferable to peace. That same Moshe Dayan last month recommended to the government, the Knesset and the nation, that the Israeli settlements in the Rafah approaches be removed.

Dayan, Begin and the other ministers obviously fail to grasp that their credibility--at least on the subject of Jewish settlements beyond the green line--has been totally destroyed. How can anyone take seriously a foreign minister who in January of this year endorsed the hasty and clumsy operation meant to increase the Jewish presence in the Rafah approaches, and in September recommends that these same settlements be evacuated? How can anyone place his trust in a prime minister who, in September, at Camp David, signs agreements stating, among other things, that the autonomy was merely a provisional arrangement and that authority would be handed over when it had ended--and in October declares with pathos that Judaea and Samaria are the heritage of our forefathers? Who can believe the statements of the man who at Camp David agreed to freeze settlements "during the negotiating period," and 1 month later ceremoniously declares that our right to settle is inalienable.

The pretense, not to say falsehood, emerging from the fleshing-out decision, is not only reflected in the contradictions between the public declarations of today as opposed to these made yesterday. The deceit is there, in every aspect of the decision. Dayan, making appearances at the Tel Aviv and New York airports, and speaking with great firmness of the government's right to decide on the fleshing-out, knows that the idea was not his--he brought the proposal before the cabinet only because he realized that with its aid he would be able to obtain wider support for the Blair House agreements.

Everybody knows that, had it not been for Zevulun Hammer's threat to resign, the idea of the fleshing-out would never have been broached. They further know that the nature of the implementation of this decision was imposed on the cabinet by Hammer and Sharon. This decision, now represented by the cabinet ministers as having been in their minds all along and as wholly suited to their aims, was in fact made under internal political pressure and in the threatening shadow of a coalition crisis. That is also how it is interpreted by the settlers beyond the green line, by the nation as a whole, and by the outside world.

A government that has consented to the removal of all Israeli settlements from Sinai can hardly expect that its decision to allocate several hundred million or several million Israeli pounds--an argument has already started between the finance minister and the minister of agriculture--to consolidate Jewish settlements in the West Bank will be taken very seriously. Ministers, including Hammer, Sharon, Moda'i and Landau, who endorsed the Camp David agreements that call for self-administration, that reduce the IDF presence in the West Bank and create a definite option for the evolution of a political Palestinian entity, have no right to profess that they have kept their hands clean by the decision to add several dozen or hundred families beyond the green line.

Since the 6-Day War Israel's governments have had reservations on the settlement movement's and Gush Emunim's appetite for settling. The establishment of many of the settlements in the West Bank was forced on the government--not planned by it. Why take seriously the hasty decision made now, of all times, on the eve of signing the Israel-Egyptian agreement, on the verge of creating a new reality in the West Bank--and doing what was not done these past 11 years?

The decision on fleshing-out is not specific, nor is it credible. The government needs it to mislead the nation. Ever since the Camp David agreements, the government--and Mr Begin in particular--has needed declarations and gestures to present its positions in a better light. Therefore, on the one hand, Begin gives in to President Carter's pressures and compromises on formulas leading to Camp David, and the next day he puts on a formidable front and cautions an anonymous Egyptian official against dictating to Israel on where and when the next meeting is to take place. (It will be recalled that a few days after Camp David an Egyptian official stated that the next meeting would be held at Al-'Arish).

So Mr Begin moves the cabinet to approve, in principle, the Blair House agreements, while concurrently making proposals for moving his and the foreign minister's offices to East Jerusalem. So Dayan and Weizman recommend that the ministers adopt the draft treaty as it stands. But at the very same time they also support the redeeming decision to flesh out the West Bank settlements.

How can the main political moves made by the government be reconciled with the exhibitionist outward gestures aimed at self-adornment, to be more presentable in the public's eyes, and perhaps in its own as well?

The Camp David agreements, if they are realized, will most certainly cause the Jewish hold in Judaea and Samaria to shrink until it disappears altogether. There probably will not be any need to decide on the removal of Jewish settlements from the West Bank: Some will wither away of their own accord and those that remain will be numbered--a very few islands floating in a densely populated Arab sea. The somehow hasty decision will not stem this erosion. The human and economic resources at Israel's disposal, the mood of the nation, the degree of legitimacy the majority of our people attach to a view that favors a continued hold on the West Bank, even at the price of going to war to uphold it--those are the basic elements determining the future of these territories.

Hypocrisy sprouts from another angle of the government's decision: Throughout the whole of the negotiations, Weizman and Begin have been explaining that the Palestinian issue has been tied in for the sole purpose of easing As-Sadat's situation in the Arab world. The declaration of principles, over which leading figures in Israel, the United States and Egypt have labored for long months, the Camp David framework agreement, the Blair House argument over the link between the two subjects--all these dealt with the future of the West Bank and the Palestinian problem; but the government's representatives tell the public that the reason for their tendency to compromise and their willingness to agree to new formulations is purely their desire to furnish As-Sadat with a verbal shield, helping him to stand up to the attacks of the Arab world.

If indeed that is the government's aim--what is the point in trying to pierce the armor plate of the words agreed on at Camp David by deciding on a major fleshing-out operation on the West Bank before the detailed agreement that will establish peace between Israel and Egypt has been signed? No matter from what angle it is viewed, the nullity of the fleshing-out decision is revealed. It is no coincidence, but part of a systematic campaign to mislead, that the government is using to facilitate matters in its internal political struggle caused by its political moves. The fleshing-out decision is combined with the draconian application of censorship and the clamorous declarations intended to drown the real note of the political process.

In January of this year a similar decision--to flesh out the settlements in the Rafah approaches--caused a serious crisis in negotiations. It is to be hoped that the decision to flesh out settlements in Judaea and Samaria will not have a similar result. As-Sadat, who said indulgently of Begin's strongly worded declarations following the Camp David agreements: "Let him be, he has problems at home," will probably understand why Begin decided, due to these problems, to strengthen the settlements in the West Bank. As-Sadat and Carter must judge Begin by the results of his actions, and so far these have been impressive and in line with their own aims: approval of the Camp David agreements; and enlistment of the great majority of the government to support, in principle, the Blair House agreements. Maybe the time has come for the prime minister and the other ministers to grasp an ancient truth: You cannot mislead all of the people all the time. The nation in general supports the government's aim to make peace with Egypt. The public in general correctly understands the Camp David agreements, including the framework document laying down the foundations for a new reality in the West Bank. And people who understand these things are not impressed by the decision to settle a few hundred more Jewish families beyond the green line.

DEVELOPMENT OF YAMIT AREA SETTLEMENTS FROZEN

TA300922Y Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 30 Oct 78 p 16 TA

[By 'Ezra Yanuv]

[Text] In at least three of the Yamit strip settlements a telephone message was received at the end of last week from the military government in Rafah about an order by the commander of the area freezing development, construction and the absorption of families in the Yamit strip settlements.

It is reported from Diqla and Netiv Ha'asara that last Friday an officer from the military government in Rafah called them on the phone and informed the secretaries of those settlements that the governor of the Gaza Strip area, Brig Gen Yosef Qastel, has issued an order dealing with the freezing of development, the cessation of construction and the end to absorption of families in the Yamit strip.

"I asked the officer from Rafah that announcements of this sort not be given over the phone but in writing," one of the activists in Moshave Netiv Ha'asara told the MA'ARIV correspondent.

In a third moshav the committee members asked that the matter of the order not be publicized, since publicizing it might disrupt relations with the military government.

There is concern in Netiv Ha'asara about the fate of the school, where additional classrooms had been planned. A representative of the Ministry of Housing, Y. Margalit, has announced that there is an "oral policy" not to construct the additional classrooms.

"How is it possible to stop development which is essential for the continuation of our lives here, at least for the next 3 years?" The members of the moshavim in the Yamit strip are asking.

It was impossible last night to get any reaction from military government circles in the Gaza Strip on this issue.

Resettlement Plan Worked Out

TA310728Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 31 Oct 78 TA

[From the Morning Newsreel]

[Text] This morning the program to establish 20 settlements in the Besor area for settlers who will be evacuated from the Yamit strip will be submitted to the leadership of the Settlement Department of the Jewish Agency. The preparation of the program has been completed and the discussion on it will be held today. Our correspondent Shim'on Schiffer comments that the leadership of the Settlement Department has already formulated the plan on how to dismantle the settlements, and a team to dismantle them will be established shortly from among the department's employees. The Yamit strip settlers are cooperating, although not publicly, with those planning the new strip. Further details from our correspondent.

[Schiffer] The planning work has been completed, in the Peace Approaches, which is the temporary name for the new settlement strip which will be established in the Besor area; 20 settlements will be established there within 3 years. The director of the Settlement Department of the Jewish Agency, Shim'on Ravid, told us that the next stage would be to submit the program for the approval of the Ministerial Committee on Settlement Affairs.

It is known that the settlers in the Yamit strip are cooperating with the planners whenever the plans are shown to them.

In an internal document, which was prepared and which will be distributed today to the leaders of the department, it is stated that the Settlement Department will appeal to the prime minister, the senior ministers and the chairman of the Zionist leadership that it be the sole authority responsible for the establishment of the settlements in all respects: planning, construction of apartments and all other work. The document states further that the department will shortly establish a team that will be responsible for the dismantling of the settlements in the Yamit strip.

In talks held among the department's leaders, the view has been formulated that almost everything that can be transferred will be dismantled and transferred. In the first stage, the greenhouses will be dismantled, the water pipes and other production means will be transferred and finally, wherever possible, the settlers' houses will also be transferred to the new area where they will settle.

The document that was prepared for the debate to be held this morning further states that care will be taken that the settlers' nuclei will be transferred together, jointly, to the new settlements.

It is already clear that the effort to resettle the Yamit strip settlers will raise difficulties unknown in the past and will demand enormous planning and coordination. For example, calculations have revealed that the Jewish Agency will have to use 55 pieces of heavy equipment each day, from the moment they begin to break the ground for the new settlements. The reference is to the preparation of 1,000 dunams per settlement. According to the department's calculations, the resettlement of a family will cost $150,000, about 3 million Israeli pounds.

It is also known that it will be suggested to the settlers of Nevi'ot and Di Zahav that they move to settlements which will be established in the 'Arava region in the next few years.

As stated, this morning the program for the 20 new settlements will be submitted, the basic plans for which had already been prepared, while the program for the southern project was being worked out.

U.S. Compensation Requested

TA3018547 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 30 Oct 78 TA

[Text] Israel says that it invested about 2 billion Israeli pounds in the Yamit settlements and it asks the United States for compensation for this, our correspondent has learned. The Israeli delegation to the Washington conference has presented the Americans with a working paper on this issue. Israel is also asking the United States to assist it in the resettlement of Yamit district evacuees. The expenditure involved is $150,000 per family.

CAMP DAVID OPPONENTS IN KNESSET MUSTER FORCES

TA3015397 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 30 Oct 78 TA

[Text] Four Knesset members from various factions who oppose the Camp David agreements are convening a rally on Wednesday in Tel Aviv of all bodies opposing the agreements. The four are Ge'ula Kohen, Yig'al Horowitz, Rabbi Hayyim Fruckman and Moshe Shamir. The rally will be attended by members from Herut, Gush Emunim, the Greater Israel Movement and from MAFDAL.

Our correspondent Zevi Yisra'eli says it is possible that on that occasion the basis for a new movement will be established: the alliance of Eretz Yisra'el loyalists.

BEGIN'S REFUSAL TO HOLD HERUT CONVENTION DRAWS COMMENT

TA2711097 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 27 Oct 78 p 5 Weekend Supplement TA

[By Bina Barzel]

[Text] It is perhaps possible to learn of the prime minister's situation within the Herut movement from the fact that Begin stubbornly refuses to accept the demand to hold a meeting of the movement's center. In a talk he held with the head of the movement's executive, Avraham Schechterman, this week, he explained again: The convening of the party's center shortly before the signing of the peace agreement is not convenient for Begin.

Does Begin fear a majority in the center against him?

It seems that this is not the nature of the fear.

One of the party's veterans described this week what will happen when Begin again has to face the center and ask for its confidence. He will come and say something like the following: My functioning is being interfered with. What do you want? We said that we would sign a peace treaty and the treaty was signed. You are talking about dangers? This is fantasy. Let me implement the achievement inherent in the agreement.

And what will be the reaction to this?

It is probable that, as always, Begin will gain a majority, if not a decisive one, then at least a large one. One of the opponents of the peace agreement said this week: "And what if there is a vote against Begin and he resigns? Is this good for the state of Israel? Is this good for Herut? One must think of the results."

It seems that this may be the opinion of a large number of the opponents, not to mention the supporters whose vote is guaranteed. Even the sharpest of Begin's critics entertain the faith--a subconscious one perhaps--that whatever happens Begin is still Begin and when the moment of truth comes and the main point--Jerusalem, Judaea and Samaria--is at stake, he is the man who will know how to handle things. If he is forced to resign--who will do the job? Dayan and Weizman are not to be relied on.

Why then does Begin avoid a convention of the center now (and expose himself to the suit initiated by Ge'ula Kohen before the supreme court of the movement)?

It seems that Begin does not want to face the people who followed him in the wilderness and believed in him. It seems that he does not want to listen to the heart-breaking criticisms they will make. Begin may gain a majority, one of his confidants said--but for him the vote of one of the movement's veterans and the Ezel veterans is worth much more than the votes of newer movement veterans who will vote for him.

Herut Court Rebukes Begin

TA310908Y Jerusalem POST in English 31 Oct 78 p 2 TA

[Text] Tel Aviv--The Herut members court of honor has rebuked Premier Menahem Begin for having failed to convene the party's central committee by now, in keeping with the party constitution which stipulates that meetings must be held monthly.

The court of honor convened at the request of party dissenter Ge'ula Kohen and her "Herut loyalists circle." She protested that the premier, as party chairman, had failed in his duty to call the meeting. She wants the committee convened before the government signs any peace treaty with Egypt. In her appeal, Kohen noted that the central committee last met on September 10.

No comment was available from the prime minister's office yesterday. However, it is understood that the premier has now advised Herut Executive Chairman Avraham Schechterman to call a central committee meeting for November 19, after having earlier mentioned November 12 as a convenient date.

HERUT REFUSES TO RECOGNIZE GE'ULA KOHEN GROUP

TA291405Y Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 29 Oct 78 p 3 TA

[Text] On Friday, the Herut movement executive decided that the halls of Mezudat Ze'ev will only be at the disposal of "official and recognized bodies of the movement."

This decision came in the wake of a meeting at Mezudat Ze'ev of "loyalists of the principles of Herut" founded by Ge'ula Kohen. Very offensive remarks were made against Prime Minister Menahem Begin at the meeting.

Ge'ula Kohen's group has not yet gained recognition from the Herut movement's institutions as an ideological group, and it is not regarded as a "recognized" group.

The executive decision also provided that only a body "which behaves in a fitting manner toward the leader of the movement and which does not offend the leader of the movement who is the prime minister" will be allowed to meet in Mezudat Ze'ev.

Last Friday the executive on acts of vandalism met. This refers to slogans critical of Begin painted on Thursday morning on walls within Mezudat Ze'ev.

AL-QUDS ON PALESTINIAN REACTIONS TO CAMP DAVID

JN291543Y Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 21 Oct 78 p 1 JN

[Editorial: "The Call for A General National Conference"]

[Text] So far several meetings have been held in the West Bank and Gaza to discuss the Camp David agreements and the proposed autonomy. The conferees expressed almost identical opinions; they rejected the results of the Camp David summit and stressed adherence to the legitimate Palestinian rights.

There are two important remarks to make about those meetings:

First, the West Bank meetings have all been dominated by one side and have of necessity been representative of the viewpoint of this side. Some persons from this quarter showed rudeness and became fed up with the views of others and with their presence. What took place on the Bethlehem University campus bears out this fact.

Though we are generally unanimous in our viewpoints, we must respect others and their viewpoints. We must not make ourselves judges, allowing and disallowing as we like. The homeland is not for one community only, and to attempt to dictate a stand to others contradicts the basic rules of democracy that we are guarding. The stage facing us is critical, and we need to be united in word and deed and not create different axes that will disintegrate our efforts. The attempt to impose ideas on others contradicts this spirit.

Second, the meetings held in the West Bank and Gaza are limited and cannot achieve a detailed decision expressing the views of the Palestinian majority in the occupied territories.

Therefore, we support the call for convening a general and comprehensive national conference that will include representatives from the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. This conference will not be limited to emotional speeches and to the adoption of a prearranged list of resolutions, as is the case now, but will be sufficiently studied and prepared for.

For this conference to succeed, two basic conditions must be met: First, the participants must be of diverse opinions and quarters and from all the towns and villages, to have the general opinion of the Palestinian under occupation. Second, research and study of the various sides of the issue must be prepared before the holding of the conference. The conference will discuss these studies and this research in an objective and detailed manner, even if it takes several days. Resolutions then are passed by the conference to the whole world.

In this way we can say that this is the opinion of the majority, and we can have a stand and a commitment. Otherwise, we are bound to find ourselves in deep water while still raising much repeated slogans.

FORMER JORDANIAN DEPUTY URGES DISCUSSION WITH JORDAN, PLO

JN291120Y Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 26 Oct 78 pp 1, 5 JN

[Article by former Jordanian deputy Edward Khamis: "The Camp David Agreement and Songs of the Thirties"]

[Excerpts] Jerusalem, 26 October--In 1936 I was still a first grade student. I recall then taking part in a raging demonstration with a stick in my hand. Fiery songs were sung and the demonstration ended in burning the police station in the yard of the Church of the Nativity.

I also recall the year 1947 when the Arabs were defeated. The result was the expulsion of two-thirds of the Palestinians as well as the occupation of the biggest parts of the most productive lands and cities. In 1967, the year of the big defeat, all Palestine and large parts of the Golan and Sinai were lost.

After 4 years of occupation, Israel held municipal council elections. Some of the Arab forces attacked those elections, while groups inside the West Bank considered the elections as treachery and called those who tried to participate, agents. However, during those elections we saw people from those groups nominating themselves to membership on the municipal councils. Their pretext was that those who nominated themselves carried out heroic and national duties, although it was under the occupation. Those elections were even more competitive than the deputies elections.

Now the autonomy plan looms on the horizon. What worries me is that those persons and groups who claim that they reject autonomy might support this plan on the pretext that this would prevent the opportunists from benefiting from the autonomy. Despite these excuses and claims, I can say that our people are aware that those persons and groups know how to manipulate the people's feelings.

Recently, the military authorities have allowed political rallies and discussions on the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Those invited to attend the political rallies, like those at the Universities of Bir Zayt and Bethlehem and in the West Bank and Gaza cities, are the same persons and belong to the same groups. What is really disappointing is that they would call any other citizen who tries to express his opinion, even if it was for the common interest, a traitor and agent. What is really surprising is that those persons and groups would not hesitate to attend cocktail parties which are usually held by the foreign consulates. Those not invited would complain because they weren't. On the other hand, the same persons and groups would boycott meetings with any political personality who might come to discuss our future with us.

In light of this, I say that we should shoulder a part of the responsibility, at least, in coordinating and cooperating with the PLO and Jordan. The recent measures of the authorities allowing the citizens of the West Bank and Gaza to discuss their political issues dictate great responsibilities and commitments to everyone of us. Therefore, I suggest that one or two persons known for their logic and worthy of the confidence should be elected from each region to coordinate the stands inside and outside the West Bank, particularly with the PLO and Jordan. We should not make hasty decisions or answers; on the contrary, we should consult and take the advice of others. Moreover, we should meet with the foreign politicians to acquaint them explicitly with our situation and our future. Holding rallies will not do us any good. I sincerely hope that we will change our "songs of the thirties" ideology and two-faced policies.

OPEN SESSION OF MAJLIS MEETS TO HEAR CENSURE MOTION

LD310828Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0800 GMT 31 Oct 78 LD

[Text] An open session of the Majlis which began this morning to hear the government's reply to a censure motion introduced by the deputy from Karaj is still in progress. Here is a report by our correspondent from the Majlis:

An open session of the Majlis held to hear the reply by Sharif-Emami's government to a censure motion presented by Mr Akhbari, Majlis deputy from Karaj, is still in progress in the presence of 220 deputies. At the outset, the prime minister introduced the new justice minister and the new minister of state for executive affairs. The deputy from Karaj, Mr. Akhbari, then read out the text of the censure motion. As he was reading the text of the censure motion most of the deputies walked out of the Majlis in protest against the motion. The interesting point is that even the opposition deputies were not present at the session today. When Akhbari began his speech there was such an uproar that the speaker was forced to call on the deputies to be quiet. After that most of the deputies walked out of the open session.

Confidence Vote Carried

LD311028Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1000 GMT 31 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Today the Majlis gave the government of Mr Sharif-Emami a vote of confidence by 176 votes in favor, 35 against and 7 abstentions. The text of the censure motion proposed by the Majlis deputy from Karaj was read out at the Majlis session today and the prime minister replied to questions raised by the Karaj deputy.

In reply to the Karaj deputy's first question about martial law, the prime minister said: The imposition of martial law in several cities has been done with the approval of the Majlis deputies, particularly that of Mr Akhbari, deputy from Karaj.

Mr Sharif-Emami said neither we or anyone else wants anyone killed or any bloodshed. The government is responsible for the security, life and honor of the people. The prime minister stressed that the government has the greatest respect for the religious community and will continue to have this respect.

In reply to the Karaj deputy's question as to why His Eminence Ayatollah Khomeyni had been deported, the prime minister said: This occured 15 years ago and now you want the reason from the present government.

With regard to oil and the consortium, the prime minister said: In the course of a meeting we held, representatives of the consortium expressed unreasonable expectations of us, which we did not agree to. However, should we have further negotiations, we will inform the esteemed deputies. The prime minister stressed that Iran would abide by the majority decision at the next OPEC session.

Regarding the Karaj deputy's question as to why the government had concealed the causes behind the assassination of Zamanipur [Mashhad police chief], the prime minister said: The government does not have the right to interfere in the affairs of the legislative or the judiciary organs.

In stressing the consequences of encouraging the oil workers to go on strike, the prime minister pointed out that encouraging the oil workers to strike is nothing but treachery. Referring to the fact that certain elements encourage the people to go on strike and keep the youngsters away from their studies, the prime minister said: Opposition to the government should not become opposition to the country.

TWO MORE MINISTERS RESIGN 30 OCTOBER

PA3019417Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 1912 GMT 30 Oct 78 PA

[Text] Tehran, 30 Oct (EFE)--Dissent intensified today, Monday, in Iran while two more ministers resigned, worsening thus the country's political crisis.

Justice minister Mohammad Baheri and minister of state for executive affairs Manuchehr Azmun both tendered their resignations to prime minister Ja'far Sharif-Emami without their motives having being made public so far. Today's resignations raise to four the number of ministers who have had to be replaced in the new cabinet, formed only 2 months ago.

Meanwhile, protests and violent incidents have continued among the Iranian population. Demonstrations against the Shah's regime took place today in different sites, including the capital, where thousands of students again staged demonstrations at the various universities after government troops withdrew their armored cars and tanks. In an incident that has not yet been explained, a woman was shot and wounded in a street in Tehran.

In the city of Mashhad, in the east, some 25,000 persons staged a sitdown to protest reimposition of the curfew. Also, in Ahvaz, in southern Iran, professors at the Jondi Shapur University declared a hunger strike to protest the arrest of two directors of the writers association.

Protest strikes are also affecting the oil sector in five southern cities. In Abadan, the world's largest crude oil refinery has been seen production drop from 600,000 barrels per day to 200,000. In almost all cases, the strikers are demanding political concessions ranging from abolition of martial law to the release of all political prisoners. Last week the regime decreed a political amnesty benefitting 1,126 persons, but this has not managed to calm the people. The political crisis has led to speculation that Ja'far Sharif-Emami's government might be forced to resign, but the information minister announced yesterday that, on the contrary, he plans to continue "his difficult task."

SHAH RECEIVES NEW MINISTERS; JUSTICE MINISTER INTERVIEWED

LD3017017Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1600 GMT 30 Oct 78 LD

[Excerpts] The new minister of justice and the new minister of state for executive affairs were introduced to the shah today in the course of an audience granted to Mr Sharif-Emami, the prime minister. During the audience, Mr Hoseyn Najafi was introduced as the new minister of justice and Mr Mostafa Paydar as the new minister of state for executive affairs. Mr. Hoseyn Najafi, the minister of justice, is 55 years old and his last post was as attorney general.

A few moments ago our colleague Faramarz Pur-Rostami interviewed the new justice minister about his audience with the shah and about his program. Here is the interview:

[Begin recording] [Question] Could you explain what happened during the audience today?

[Answer] During the audience I explained to the shahanshah what I considered to be necessary with regard to the judiciary, and the shahanshah issued emphatic instructions to the prime minister on strengthening the judiciary, the principle of the rule of law, the independence of the judiciary and respecting the status, prestige and reputation of the judiciary and the judges. God willing, the judiciary, having mobilized its own resources, will be successful in its campaign against corruption.

[Question] Mr Najafi, as you yourself have been working in the judiciary for a long time, do you now have any program to reform the situation, particularly in view of the fact that there are many dossiers currently pending in the courts?

[Answer] First, my program is for our judiciary to regain the position that the constitution envisages for it in our country and for it to be able to carry out the law with complete independence of action and complete impartiality, without fear or favor. Thus, anyone in any position having committed an offense against public rights will be brought to book and tried in accordance with the law.

[Question] Does this mean that one of your programs will be to expedite the procedures relating to pending files?

[Answer] Of course, this will be my first priority.

[Question] Will you be able to do this with your existing staff?

[Answer] True, our existing staff may not be up to our aspirations at the moment, but we hope to be able to make up for the shortage of staff through the efforts of our judicial colleagues in the crucial situation we are facing now, so that with absolute courage, honesty, integrity and hard work they will be able to fulfill the important task before them. [end recording]

GOVERNOR OF KERMANSHAH PROVINCE REPORTEDLY RESIGNS

TA302032Y Paris AFP in English 2015 GMT 30 Oct 78 TA

[Text] Tehran, Oct 30 (AFP)--Reports by the Iranian opposition in exile that the governor of the eastern province of Azerbaijan, Gen Ja'afar Shafaqat, had been the target of an assassination attempt on Saturday were today denied by the official Iranian news agency PARS. The agency said that the governor was working today as usual in his office in the provincial capital, Tabriz.

Meanwhile, it was reported that Gen Ahmad Nazemi, governor of the Kermanshah province resigned today "following recent troubles in the province."

Informed sources also said that Ayatollah Talegani, one of the major Shi'ite religious leaders whose release from jail was demanded by the Shi'ite Moslem hierarchy in Iran, was freed today.

INFORMATION MINISTER'S PRESS CONFERENCE REPORTED

LD301414Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1000 GMT 30 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Baqer 'Ameli-Tehrani, minister of information and tourism, attended a press conference and answered some questions put to him by foreign and domestic correspondents during which he explained the government's views on various issues facing the country.

Commenting on recent events in Iran, the minister said: The recent developments are a reaction to what has been happening during the past 15 years which resulted in a series of changes and reactions. Of course, one has to bear in mind that certain signs of directives by certain groups who are not friendly to the Iranian nation are noticeable amid these developments. In any case, law enforcement officers are fulfilling their functions in controlling the unrest. However, it has been stressed to them that they should do their job in a manner so as not to cause any loss of life, although at times they are subject to attacks.

Referring to demonstrations, the information minister pointed out: When martial law is in force, holding assemblies is not allowed. In such circumstances, freedom of assembly is governed by martial law regulations, and this is where the problems arise, since unfortunately, there exist certain groups who ignore warnings by law enforcement officers and continue holding assemblies. The information minister added: If all those who held gatherings, irrespective of their ideas and views, observed the martial law regulations, there would be no problem. He pointed out: What the government is doing in connection with arrests, prosecution, interrogation and trial of individuals coincides precisely with the existing laws. No other special or additional regulations are applied in these circumstances.

With regard to abolishing martial law, the information minister said: We remain faithful to the pledge given by the head of the government and we will abolish the martial law at the first opportunity. However, this requires all demonstrators to operate within the constitution and observe the security regulations. He added: The government consistently avoids violent or military methods and promotes the exercise of liberties and people's judgment to help the situation, so that those operating outside the constitution and security regulations are defeated through their condemnation by public opinion. The minister added: The government persists in safeguarding feedoms and establishing order, without sacrificing one for the other.

Concerning the government's proposal on the return of students and other Iranians who live abroad for political reasons, the minister said: The proposal continues to remain in force and all students and other Iranians may return home. I must point out that the rumors which are being spread and attributed to various people are not correct; the government believes in its pronouncements.

Referring to reactivation of political parties, Mr 'Ameli-Tehrani said: We consider it our duty to make provisions for activities of all parties within the context of the constitution. The Iranian people are free to form parties. Such activities could also begin among the Majlis deputies. He said: All parties, with the exception of the Tudeh Party, which is banned under the law, will be officially recognized.

More on Press Conference

LD301958Y Tehran PARS in English 1640 GMT 30 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Tehran, 30 Oct (PARS NEWS AGENCY)--Minister of information and tourism Mohammad Reza 'Ameli-Tehrani gave a press conference yesterday afternoon for local and foreign journalists. Excerpts from this press conference follow.

Question: There are rumours that Manuchehr Azmun, minister of state, has tendered his resignation but that his resignation has not been accepted. Is this true?

Answer: Last night we were together at a cabinet meeting and Azmun was undertaking his responsibilities seriously. Today I have had several contacts with him of an official nature.

Question: There is a rumour that there will be cabinet changes within two or three days. Is there any truth in this?

Answer: We have assumed a very difficult task which we are fulfilling to the best of our abilities and we shall continue to do so as long as we are wanted to do so. I have heard these rumours, too, but at the cabinet level so far there has been no discussion to them.

Question: How does your excellency view recent developments in Iran from the position of a responsible member of the government?

Answer: These developments are in fact reactions to what has happened in Iran in the last 15 years. There is no question that internal developments have had a role in creating them but we can also see streaks of guidance by outside groups that have been known to be hostile to Iran.

Question: Do you see this as a dangerous threat?

Answer: I do not label it a danger because I know that the Iranian nation will stand up against it, but these developments I have observed.

Question: Would you care to name any other groups who are known to be hostile?

Answer: Among them is the communist party of Iran, known as the Tudeh Party, and there are others that are either organized or directed by this party.

Question: Do you think the PLO is playing any particular role in creating these disturbances?

Answer: I decline to comment.

Question: Does the government have any particular plan to curb the wave of violence in provincial towns at present?

Answer: Law enforcement agencies will of course execute their responsibilities in this regard. Of course they have been instructed to avoid inflicting death as far as possible.

Question: Your Excellency, you have been quoted by PARS NEWS AGENCY as saying on TV on Friday night that the government would allow demonstrations. Today PARS had a news item saying that the martial law administration in Ahvaz has forbidden that?

Answer: Demonstrations are free, except where there is martial law.

Question: Do you think the present skirmishes between pro and anti groups are the beginnings of a civil war?

Answer: I don't think it is the case and I hope that it won't be. I can say that if all demonstrators, both for and against, abide by the law, there will be no problem whatsoever.

Minister on Foreigners' Safety

LD302017Y Tehran in English to Europe 1930 GMT 30 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Iran's minister of information Mohammad Reza 'Ameli-Tehrani has said both communists and dissidents are receiving orders from abroad, but he said he did not believe these foreign interferences are considered very dangerous. In a news conference yesterday Ameli said the government is capable of handling the situation and added: The troops have been ordered to minimize clashes to prevent further deaths.

In related news, the information minister said there is no need for concern about safety of foreigners living in Iran. He said any antiforeign sentiments seem to stem from Iranians who felt they could do the job that foreign experts have been employed to do. Anyone who is legally in the country will be protected under the law.

OFFICIAL ELABORATES ON DISMISSALS FROM SAVAK

LD301906Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1600 GMT 30 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Following the dismissal of a number of Iranian security and intelligence organization [SAVAK] officials, a SAVAK official today supplied some information regarding the dismissal of these people to reporters. He told reporters that several deputy chiefs, directors general and section heads who had reached the retirement age had been retired. In addition, a number of people who continued to operate in the manner they were used to in the past have also been dismissed. These people have been dismissed in the interest of the country.

Commenting on torture of prisoners by former agents, the official said that for a year now representatives of the International Red Cross have been in Iran and regularly visit Iranian prisons, meeting every individual prisoner. In addition, they are maintaining careful supervision over all things. Obviously, should they observe any wrong action they will certainly report to the shahanshah directly.

A KAYHAN correspondent asked the SAVAK official about the murder of a KAYHAN woman correspondent and about the murder of an unarmed woman saboteur. [Words indistinct] The SAVAK official is reported to have said that in general it is very easy to level accusations against others, but very difficult to prove the case. In my view, he said, all those interested in their country should, at this critical situation, try to help illuminate public opinion, not to fan the fire of rumors. He said: I think everyone would agree that when a saboteur is handed over to the investigating apparatus intact, it paves the way for discovering sabotage organizations. So it is much more important for a security organization to have a live and healthy saboteur than a dead body. For this reason one should look at remarks by foreigners with suspicion. The SAVAK official said that, in general, the security agents have been instructed to defend themselves only if they are convinced their lives are in mortal danger.

Regarding the number of antistate prisoners still in jail, he said: Following the release of prisoners recently, there are still definitely 600 antistate people in prison. All of them have been members of groups whose aims are murder, plunder and criminal activity.

OPPOSITION LEADER INTERVIEWED AFTER MEETING KHOMEYNI

LD301611Y Paris Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 30 Oct 78 LD

[Text] The Iranian opposition is getting together and organizing in France. Several meetings took place yesterday at the home of the religious leader in exile who left Iraq a few weeks ago and who maintains a strong influence over the Iranian people. One of those who called on him was Karim Sanjabi, the head of the opposition National Front, who received [correspondent] Yves-Paul Vincent this morning. [begin recording]

[Sanjabi] You know that Ayatollah Khomeyni demands the restoration of justice and of Islamic government. Obviously, I have neither the competence nor the authority to explain what he means by this government.

[Question] But you do not favor an Islamic government?

[Answer] I will tell you, we are the National Front, and as a democratic front we demand and we want national sovereignty, the sovereignty of the people. To this end we want the Iranian people, in a free and general election, to decide on the situation and the fate of the country.

[Question] Nevertheless, one has the impression, Dr Sanjabi, that after this meeting, the lay opposition, of which you are one of the main leaders, has alined itself with certain hard positions of the religious leaders, including the most prestigious among them, namely Ayatollah Khomeyni, who has fled to France. Does this mean that now we are at the end of the Pahlavi dynasty? Does this also mean that you are demanding the abolition of the monarchy?

[Answer] What is important to us is not the form but the content of the government. In other words, we want a regime and a government that really depends on the people, one that is democratic. The form is immaterial. There are republics more cruel and more autocratic than certain monarchies, and there are monarchies more constitutional and more democratic than many republics. What is important to us is the sincere restoration of democracy and the integral implementation of our constitutional law.

[Question] Do you mean by this that if the shah really intended to restore democracy in Iran, you would not be opposed to his staying in power?

[Answer] I tell you sincerely that I am not confident that the king sincerely wants to return to the complete and integral implementation of the constitutional law after what has happened during the past 25 years. He has always shown his position against the constitutional laws and against democracy, and I do not believe that it would be possible for him to turn the clock back. What is happening in Iran today, the so-called liberalization, is only a charade; there is no reality behind it. It is done in order to calm world public opinion on the one hand and the general dissatisfaction of the Iranian people on the other.

[Question] If by any chance the shah should decide to form a cabinet of opposition representatives, would you agree to join such a government since you are one of the main leaders of the opposition?

[Answer] No, I would not join a government under the present circumstances. [end recording]

SHAH ORDERS RELEASE OF TWO RELIGIOUS DETAINEES

LD301656Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1600 GMT 30 Oct 78 LD

[Text] On orders from the shahanshah, Ayatollah Montazeri and Hojjatol Eslam Haj Sayyed Mahmud Taleqani were released today.

DEMONSTRATIONS IN VARIOUS PARTS OF COUNTRY REPORTED

LD301516Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1000 GMT 30 Oct 78 LD

[Text] According to a PARS NEWS AGENCY report, an Ilam policeman who was wounded during the past 2 days of demonstrations and shooting in Ilam has died in the emergency hospital of the Red Lion and Sun Society. The policeman was named Hamid Nasiri. Last night, a number of people staged a demonstration in Ilam streets. The law enforcement officers opened fire. In the course of the demonstration the installations belonging to the human welfare legion were set on fire and one policeman was injured.

In Tabriz, adults and schoolchildren held a demonstration which was dispersed after law enforcement officers arrived on the scene. At present Tabriz is quiet, but the bazaar and schools are closed. According to other reports, similar demonstrations took place by students of the management college in Qazvin. In Ahvaz students and scientific staff of Jondi Shapur and education department staff held a march yesterday. The march was not interfered with by the army or the university guard.

Two Daderat Bank branches, a Melli Bank branch, a Sepah Bank branch and a cinema were set on fire last night following a massive demonstration in Yazd.

Further Demonstrations, Strikes

LD301234Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1000 GMT 30 Oct 78 LD

[Text] A series of demonstrations staged in Mashhad by some high school pupils and teachers' college students were quite orderly.

In Esfahan last night and today a group of pupils and education department staff waged some demonstrations, but the demonstrators were dispersed when law enforcement officers used tear gas and fired into the air. In Mobarakeh, near Esfahan, some 4,000 pupils and education department staff went on a march and staged a demonstration. A number of people were injured as a result of clashes between the opposing sides. In Shiraz, Reza'iyeh, Shahput and Shar-e Kord there were a series of demonstrations today by pupils and education department employees, as well as by various other people.

The strike at Esfahan University still continues. According to reports, the university professors and students today assembled in front of the university mosques. Many other schools are also closed today, with their teachers assembling in front of the city's education and training department. The Esfahan refinery workers continued their strike action today as well.

Meanwhile, the strike by students of Esfahan midwifery and nursing school continued today, with students refusing to attend classes and graduate teachers staying at home. The strike at the teaching complex of the Esfahan Red Lion and Sun, which began 31 days ago, still continues. The students demand improvement of their conditions, better welfare and better implementation of educational programs. However, these are only some of their demands.

More on Demonstrations

LD301900Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1600 GMT 30 Oct 78 LD

[Text] On the second day of national solidarity today, groups of students and lecturers held a rally on the Tehran University campus. According to our correspondent, a representative of the lecturers referred in a speech to the teachers' solidarity with other groups of people. Several students also made speeches regarding national solidarity. The rally ended at 1245, and the students and lecturers held a prayer in an orderly manner. Outside the campus there did not appear to be any demonstrations.

According to our correspondent, there were demonstrations in Pol-e Zohab this morning, in the course of which the windows of several banks and private and public buildings were smashed. Our correspondent adds that there were reportedly several injuries during today's demonstrations. More than 5,000 students and educators of Sari staged a peaceful march this morning, and put forward their demands, which involve 15 points.

Thousands of people from various classes as well as students in Langarud staged a march along the city streets this morning. According to our correspondent, Langarud's schools are closed and the city itself is half closed. Educators and students of Rud Bar also staged a march with slogans this morning.

According to our correspondent, Reza'iyeh's bazaar and schools are again closed today and only a few shops have stayed open to sell basic necessities. In a statement broadcast on Reza'iyeh radio and television last night, Reza'iyeh's religious leaders called on shopkeepers to reopen their shops and resume economic activity. Following the statement issued by Reza'iyeh educators against the demonstrations held on 25, 26 and 27 October, more than 1,000 Reza'iyeh educators passed the night at the city courthouse. Student representatives, university academics and high-level religious men also joined the educators. Some 600 people from the shopkeepers' guild also held a meeting in front of the courthouse. They all demanded the prosecution of those involved in the demonstrations during the 3 days.

The scientific staff of the Iranian Banking Association have declared their support for the National Association of Iranian Academics. Following the statement issued by the academics, the students of Ferdowsi University and the staff of the university's medical center, as well as lecturers, assistants, internees and the medical center's administrative staff, held a rally at the Shahnaz Pahlavi Medical Center at 0800 today, and declared they would go on strike in solidarity with the country's other universities and institutes of higher education. At the same time, groups of religious men, students and other people, led by His Eminence Ayatollah Mara'shi, held a march along several streets and later joined the strikers; in an orderly way they later held a mass prayer at the Ferdowsi University club.

Just before curfew hour last night, groups of people staged a march near the square in the neighborhood of the holy shrine [shrine of Imam Reza of the Shi'ites]. In protest against the extension of the curfew, the shopkeepers also deliberately kept their shops open. According to our correspondents' reports from Sabzevar and Birjand, demonstrations were held in these cities again today. In Sabzevar, demonstrators smashed the windows of several shops, and, according to the local chief of police, two police officers were injured in yesterday's clashes. A group of retired people and country dwellers also staged demonstrations in Sabzevar's streets holding portraits of the shah. Students also staged demonstrations in Birjand. These passed peacefully.

Rud Sar witnessed a street march and demonstrations today by educators, students and various other classes of people. After completing their march and demonstrations they went to the city courthouse and demanded the release of those arrested in the demonstrations at the city's Sahebozzam mosque. According to our correspondents, the demonstrators in Rud Sar dispersed following noon and evening prayers. Rud Sar educators have said they will continue their strike until Saturday. In solidarity with the Week of National Solidarity declared by the academics, educational institutes and schools were closed in Rud Sar today.

Groups of people marched through Esfahan's streets last night and, shouting slogans, set fire to car tires. Security forces stopped traffic at Sorush Street and dispersed the demonstrators after firing shots in the air and using tear gas. Two cars were set on fire by the demonstrators.

Groups of people in Bam poured onto the streets and, shouting slogans, staged a march. Demonstrators smashed the windows of several shops and stores. After evening prayer at Kerman Jame' mosque last night, students and other classes of the people staged demonstrations. Shouting religious slogans, they staged a march and then dispersed.

Groups of people staged demonstrations in Sanandaj. Shouting religious slogans, they staged a march and then dispersed. Earlier, the demonstrators had clashed with opposition groups. Security forces used tear gas to disperse the demonstrators. Clashes in Sanandaj today resulted in shooting by security forces, but no one was hurt. Damage was inflicted on two teacher-training colleges in the city today.

People also staged demonstrations in Paveh today. They clashed with security forces, resulting in 11 people being killed. The staff of the Qazvin provincial department of justice held a meeting today and expressed their regret over recent incidents, particularly the setting on fire of several courthouses in the provinces. After expressing profound sympathy with the survivors of the head of the justice department of Zanjan, they sent a telephone message to the minister of justice.

Investigative Team to Kermanshah

LD301740Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1600 GMT 30 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Majlis deputies Mr Mo'tazedi, Mr Ojaq and Dr Rashid Yasami from Kermanshah met with Mr Ja'far Sharif-Emami today about the recent incidents in Kermanshah.

At this meeting the prime minister decided to send an investigation team to Kermanshah to conduct inquiry into the recent incidents in the city and to identify and prosecute the real culprits. The team is also assigned to prepare a report on the extent of the material losses and propose ways of providing compensation so that the necessary decisions regarding appropriate compensation to those who suffered a loss will be adopted.

OIL EXPORTS COMPLETELY HALTED BY STRIKE

LD311132Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1000 GMT 31 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Our correspondent reports from Abadan that oilworkers in all parts of the country are on strike today. According to our correspondent, since last Wednesday the strike by all sections of the special Oil Services Company OSCO, or the former consortium, began with extensive strike in Ahvaz and after several days extended to workers in the oil industry in the oil regions of Gachsaran, Agha Jari, Kharg, Abadan, Mahshahr, Shahpur and Tehran, as well as all the pipe-manufacturing companies, communications section and the gas and petrochemical companies.

By today the export of oil to the outside world has been completely halted and there are now fears of a complete stoppage of oil production to supply domestic oil refineries and, consequently, lack of supplies for public consumption and paralysis of industry throughout the country.

Strikers' demands include full support for the demands of educators and students, abolition of martial law, release of all political prisoners, full "Iranization" of the oil industry and organizations relating to this industry in Iran and throughout the world and several other industrial demands.

STRIKE AT BUSHEHR PORT ENDS AFTER 13 DAYS

LD302106Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2000 GMT 30 Oct 78 LD

[Text] The strike at Bushehr General Port and Shipping Organization was broken at 1200 today. After 13 days on strike and after having achieved their demands, the workers and administrative staff returned to work.

NEPAL

33 NEPALESE POLITICAL WORKERS LIVING IN INDIA PARDONED

BK291513Y Hong Kong AFP in English 1218 GMT 29 Oct 78 BK

[Text] Katmandu, Oct 29 (AFP)--King Birendra of Nepal has pardoned 33 rank and file political workers who were in self-exile in India and involved in different anti-national activities, it was officially announced today. These political workers were earlier associated with deposed Premier B.P. Koirala's banned Nepali Congress Party and they were indulging in subversive activities in Nepal, making India their base in order to restore a parliamentary form of government in the kingdom. They were convicted in different state offence cases in absentia and some of them were facing judicial arrest in connection with the criminal investigation.

These 33 people have recently broken away from Koirala's faction and joined the faction of Mr. Shashi Shamsher Rana--whom King Birendra had pardoned for similar offences. The political amnesty has been granted by King Birendra under the process of political liberalisation in the kingdom.

Among the political workers Shamsher Bahadur Khatri and Lal Dhoj Gurung were reported to have already died, and only Balkumar Thakuri is currently serving a long term of imprisonment in central jail in Katmandu.

These people will be permitted to live in Nepal peacefully without taking part in any political activities, the official announcement further added.

Meanwhile, Mr. Biswo Bandhu Thapa, 52, chairman of the high power Back-to-the Village National Campaign Committee a constitutional body and political vehicle of the party-less policy, resigned yesterday. The resignation was made in view of the strong opposition and criticism from the rank and file partyless Panchayat Polity in protest against Thapa's meeting with Koirala last week. The Panchayat workers hold the view that Mr. Thapa being the responsible man in a highly political strategic post should not have maintained contact with a person like Koirala who is the enemy of the Panchayat system.

Mr. Thapa was the chief whip of Mr. Loirala's Nepali congress government in 1959-60. However, after joining the present partyless policy he had been a staunch critic of Koirala for his attitude towards the present political system in the country.

Deposed Premier Koirala is currently facing two of the seven state offence cases before a one-man tribunal. The tribunal had already acquitted him of five other treason cases before he went to New York a second time for a carotid artery operation.

PAKISTAN

KARACHI COMMENTS ON CONTINUATION OF KASHMIR DISPUTE

BK271447Y Karachi Overseas Service in English 0035 GMT 27 Oct 78 BK

[News commentary by Akhtar Azam Razvi]

[Text] Pakistan has rejected the Indian claim that Jammu and Kashmir was an integral part of India. At the UN General Assembly's third committee--social, humanitarian and cultural--the Pakistan delegate briefly intervened to rebuff the Indian assertion.

The committee adopted a resolution on the importance of the universal rights of the people to self-determination. It considered an expert's study on areas and territories where the people have still to exercise their right of self-determination. The study by Mr (?Hector Crop Espire) is a document of the third committee and it lists 14 regions [words indistinct].

Taking exception to the mention of Kashmir, the Indian delegate had expressed what he called "serious reservation" and went to the absurd length of saying: Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of India, legally, constitutionally and politically.

The Pakistan delegate felicitated the author of the expert's study for its in-depth and objective analysis. The study, she said, would be a significant contribution to the realization of the right of self-determination the world over. She added: Mr (?Espire's) study had correctly and appropriately listed Jammu and Kashmir as a region where the people have yet to exercise their inalienable right to self-determination, called for in the relevant resolutions of the United Nations.

The resolution adopted by the third committee called upon all the states to implement fully and faithfully the resolutions of the United Nations regarding the exercise of the right of self-determination. Jammu and Kashmir constitutes a dispute involving India and Pakistan, besides the people of the state concerned. The Simla agreement clearly states the plain truth that the Kashmir dispute, arising out of the denial of the right to self-determination, remains to be settled between India and Pakistan.

The Kashmir issue has been with the United Nations for almost 3 decades. It has remained unresolved because of the contrary pulls of global power politics. It is the principle cause of dissidence between two neighbors who have given compelling reasons to strive for a climate of peace and mutual understanding.

The foreign affairs adviser, Mr Agha Shahi, who led the Pakistan delegation to the current session of the UN General Assembly, has pointedly reaffirmed Pakistan's position vis-a-vis India. The Government of President Ziaul Haq is very keen to carry forward the process of normalization between India and Pakistan. Relations between the two countries have been developing in diverse fields, such as trade, sports and cultural exchanges. But friendship and mutual cooperation can and ought to be more firmly founded on a final settlement of the Kashmir dispute. Instead of denying the existence of the dispute, the sane and profitable approach is to move toward a just and honourable settlement.

HAQ EXPRESSES HOPE FOR NO POLITICAL CRISIS

BK271026Y Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 27 Oct 78 BK

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has expressed the hope that there will be no political crisis in the country if some political parties quit the government, although he sees no such eventuality. Talking to newsmen at Lahore airport on his arrival from Rawalpindi this morning, he said he is working and planning hard to hand over power to the civilians.

Replying to a question, he said, we are quite capable of running the government if any political party quits the government, although he does not see any such chance.

When asked about the reported regrouping of political parties, he said there is need for a strong political grouping and unity.